

Four Freshmen Music Foundation Off to Great Start

by Trudy Feigum

Close to 300 people came together to meet, greet and eat at a Gala Reception hosted by the Four Freshmen Music Foundation (FFMF), Thursday evening, August 25, at the Galt House in Louisville.

Program emcee was FFMF Chairman Trudy Feigum who gave a warm welcome and extended gratitude to donors, particularly Ross Barbour Founding Members. Attendees were introduced to the Four Freshmen Archive being developed at Butler University by Dr. Sally Childs-Helton, archivist librarian. A much-deserved tribute was given Jack and Mary Morrison who were singled out for a generous donation to the FFMF. The Four Freshmen performed a Henry Mancini composition, never before sung by the beloved foursome. FFMF board members were introduced and thanked for their efforts these past 11 months. Also recognized was Dan de la Torre for designing the FFMF logo and Chaz Cone for designing and developing the FFMF website, FourFreshmenMusicFoundation.org.

During the FFS General Membership meeting, August 27, Trudy reported the progress of the Foundation to date. She emphasized the need to recognize the FFS and the FFMF are two entirely separate organizations. The FFS exists to support and promote the current performing Four Freshmen; the FFMF supports and promotes the history, the unique harmonies and the legacy of the Four Freshmen since the group's inception. The FFS has members who pay annual dues, she said; the FFMF's members are donors who give once, twice, maybe every year, perhaps through their estate, perhaps as a memoriam, perhaps in honor of someone. All donations to the FFMF are tax-deductible in accordance with the FFMF's designation by the Internal Revenue Service.

Trudy said she was "thrilled" to report donations received by the FFMF during this convention totaled over \$5,000.

"These donations will help the FFMF reach its goal of \$100,000 this first year, and also reinforces that the excitement about starting this Foundation has not waned. We're off to a great start," she said.

Reviewing the work of the FFMF's board of directors, Trudy reported several committees have been formed, including Budget & Finance; Fundraising; Education, Grant Application & Review; Marketing; and Archival Exhibits. Trudy asks that anyone who is interested in serving on a committee should contact her by email, TrudyF@Reagan.com.

Chairman Feigum thanked everyone, on behalf of the Foundation's board of directors, for kind words of support, ongoing donations and for helping breathe life into the Four Freshmen Foundation.

