Getting In to the NFMC Festival Registration System

1. Make sure you have the latest version of your browser software and operating system.
• If you are using Chrome, stop and get Firefox. Chrome hates Java and the NFMC system.
  Festival 2020 Update: Chrome may now work for some users.
• If you are using Safari on the Mac, you still may need to switch to Firefox for Mac; Safari is usually okay but sometimes just refuses to run the NFMC system.
• You cannot use your phone or tablet to run the NFMC system. It just won't work. (If you've gotten it to work for you, make sure to tell me, because it may be an actual Christmas miracle!)
• Windows 10 has finally gotten its act together and seems to be willing (provided you treat everything gently) to run the system.

2. Make sure that you have the latest version of Java (it's free: www.java.com/download) and that your browser (plug-ins, etc.) is set to allow Java.

3. Go to www.nfmc-festivals.org – please note, it's not .com.
Further Update: Do NOT try to get in by going to the regular NFMC website (www.nfmc-music.org) and trying to log in and navigate there using the menus. You cannot get in that way, even if you were one of the individuals designated to add bulletin or composer info to set up the system.

4. At the top of the page, find the button marked "NFMC Log-In" and click on it.

5. It should pop up a little box asking which email you want to use to log in. Click on the appropriate one. Some may have only one in their list. New users, contact the Festival Scheduler to be added to the system and get your authorization email assigned. Returning users, please use the one you used last year.
• If it does not work, make sure you are logged into that email before trying to get into the NFMC system. It wants you to demonstrate you are yourself.
• If you still have trouble getting that email to work (for example, AOL emails generally no longer work with the system. AOL hates Java; so do some other email service providers), please contact the Festival Scheduler (manassas.festival.scheduler@gmail.com) to change your authorization email. Note that Gmail works the best because the system uses Google Authentication to make log-in secure. It is free to get a Gmail address. (Please don't ask why Google Chrome doesn't work with the system then, it's a mystery.)
• If you have forgotten which email you have been using, please contact the Festival Scheduler to ask which one is in the system!

6. After you choose your email, it will pop up a dialog box with an incredibly long filename and ask what you want to do with it, Open or Save. Click Open, and it should display something like this: Open with Java ™ Web Launcher. If Java Web Launcher does not show up in the box, and the box says something like "select", open the drop down and select Java Web Launcher. If that doesn't show up as an option, check browsers, operating systems and Java version. Then if it still doesn't show up, contact the Festival Scheduler.
Festival 2020 NOTE: After the latest Java security update and the quick-and-dirty update National did on the system to conform to Java's standards, some people will not see the option to Open or Save. It's just Save or nothing (Cancel). And then when you click on Save, it goes away, while you wait forever for it to do something. It won't. What you will need to do is to look in the upper right corner of your browser window. Below the X (exit) box in the corner, there should be a short row of icons. One of them will be a down arrow with an underline. Click on the down arrow, bringing up a list of downloaded files. Doubleclick on the incredibly long filename at the top of the list to open it. Click Okay when it brings up the warning (it has never eaten your computer before and it won't now!). Then continue to the next instruction, below.

7. It will ask you a couple of confirmation questions that tell you the program is not secure, the website doesn't have a valid certificate, and the whole thing is pretty much evil. ***You can safely ignore this.*** My computer programming expert says it is just that the programmer was too stupid or lazy to get a proper certificate for the site and that in spite of that, it appears to be neither dangerous to your computer nor insecure with your personal data. So to the first "Are you sure?" message, click "Continue" and to the second "Are you really really sure?" message, click "Run."

8. If it does not run at that point, please contact the Festival Scheduler.