Opera Theatre in Revue
China-bound for The Symphony

Department of Music
www.wku.edu/music
MUSIC FACILITIES: Construction, Renovation, and Grand Piano

This was an especially exciting year for the Department of Music, where the choral area has, for the first time in almost 40 years, a dedicated rehearsal space. The choral rehearsal hall in the new Music Rehearsal Hall features beautiful hardwood floors, 2800 square feet of space (enough to house a choir of 150 and a chamber orchestra for rehearsal purposes), adjustable acoustics by way of sound curtains, and a state-of-the-art audio/visual cart, for immediate recording and playback. The instrumental rehearsal hall boasts 4500 square feet, large instrument/equipment storage facilities and comparable adjustable acoustics and audio/visual capabilities.

The two grand pianos from the FAC rehearsal hall and the FAC Recital Hall were moved to the two new rehearsal halls. This left the FAC Recital Hall without a professional caliber instrument, so plans to remedy that were undertaken. A piano selection committee consisting of Mitzi Groom (department head), Donald Speer (piano professor), Alesia Speer (adjunct piano instructor) and student Lindsey Byrd (freshman from Princeton, KY) traveled with John Gist, representative from Gist Music in Louisville, to the Steinway Factory in New York City. The rambling 90-building Steinway Factory has been the home to these great pianos since the latter half of the 19th century, even establishing a community for its workers, called Steinway Village.

Prior to the 2-hour selection process, the committee toured the factory, visiting all areas of the craft, seeing the entire process of building a piano from the raw wood, to the veneer, to the rim-bending process, the piano action, string dampers, sound board and pedal lyre installation, to the finishing room final tuning. The new Steinway grand piano in the FAC Recital Hall, housed at Gist Music in Louisville for several months, was delivered in May of 2012.

Renovation has also been completed in the old rehearsal area of FAC, resulting in a new percussion suite and sound lock doors on the FAC Recital Hall. The percussion suite includes a teaching studio, 5 individual percussion practice rooms, and a large percussion ensemble rehearsal space. The practice rooms on the third floor of FAC underwent an upgrade that included affixing acoustical panels to the inner walls of all rooms, and new tile flooring is to be completed this summer in all hallways on the first three floors of the FAC. Students will be coming back to school in August to wonderful spaces for learning and making music.

Dedication Time

Even though classes and rehearsals have been occurring in the Music Rehearsal Hall for the entire Spring 2012 semester, it wasn’t officially dedicated until May 4, 2012. Speakers for this ceremony included David Lee, Dean of Potter College of Arts and Letters; Matt Lund, graduating senior; Gary Ransdell, President of WKU; and Mitzi Groom, head, Department of Music. Following the brief ceremony, in honor of this momentous occasion, a Musicale occurred throughout the new building, including performances by the Jazz Band, Steelband, Big Red Music Machine, Wind Ensemble, TrebleMakers, RedShirts, Chorale, Bohemian Brass, WKU Winds and Quintessential.

Of special note, the Music Rehearsal Hall has been designated as a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified building, and includes these sustainable highlights: a 40,000-gallon aquifer (cistern) beneath the building front driveway that collects and treats the storm water, resulting in water-efficient landscape; low-flow plumbing fixtures; no ozone depleting materials in construction components; between 50-75% of construction debris diverted to landfills or recycled; a shower to encourage bicycle transportation by faculty/staff; windows in all occupied areas; low odor/low volatile organic compound count on interior finishes; site development that restored original habitat; and a white roof to reflect urban heat.
Many thanks go to: David Lee for his leadership on the construction planning committee; to Ross Tarrant architectural firm and Jeff Stivers, lead architect; to R. G. Anderson and Steve Lund, general contractor; to Kerra Ogden, WKU project manager; to Tom Meacham and Scott French, WKU Publications Department, for the wall graphics; to landscaper Helen Siewers; and to Brent Oglesbee, Mike Nichols, Leslie Nichols and Jeff Jenson for providing art works for the Commons.

The Music Rehearsal Hall is developing a spirit of its own, one that is inspiring to the musicians, “in tune” to the faculty who teach in the new space, acoustically compelling to the community folks who come to hear the product of its practice, and has become the “jewel in the hillside” that was promised by the architects.

On May 3, 2012, another special ceremony took place that dedicated a tree in front of the Music Rehearsal Hall. A tall, slender tulip poplar tree (state tree of Kentucky) was planted in memory of a former Department of Music Office Associate, Deloris Trammel, who served in this staff capacity from 2004-2011. She nurtured, kidded, supported, chastised and loved her music majors. Before she retired in 2011, she made sure we could carry on for some time, compiling a notebook that included lists of duties and how-to’s. It is still a great reference guide for staff and student workers. This tree and granite marker was purchased by the two professional music fraternities, Delta Omicron and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, memorializing the contributions of Deloris Trammel in the hearts and minds of students in the WKU Department of Music.
It is with great pleasure and excitement that I share the wonderful news of The Symphony’s upcoming concert tour of China! We have received financial support from the Department of Music, Potter College, President Ransdell, The Confucius Institute at WKU and Hanban (China’s Ministry of Education) to make this first international concert tour for The Symphony at WKU a reality.

The 65-member Symphony will present three concerts on this 15-day tour, which will include performances at the North Korea Electric Power Universities in Beijing and Baoding, as well as Hebei University. The Symphony will perform highlights from the 2012-13 season, as well as the premiere of a new work written for our Chinese hosts by Michael Kallstrom, and the Butterfly Lovers Concerto, one of the most recognizable works in China, performed by WKU’s concertmaster, Ching-Yi Lin. Our orchestra students will attend Chinese language classes on a weekly basis through WKU’s Confucius Institute throughout the spring term. This will truly be the opportunity of a lifetime as our students immerse themselves in this culture and share our art halfway around the globe.

by Bill Scott, orchestra director, Baker Professor of Music
It is my pleasure to extend to you an invitation to join The Symphony at WKU for this concert tour of China. The Alumni Office staff is working to put together a package for WKU friends who may want to join The Symphony for this adventure of a lifetime (contact tracy.morrison@wku.edu/888.WKU.ALUM). The itinerary will take you from modern Beijing to the beautiful Xi’an, China’s capital for 11 dynasties spanning over 4,000 years. You will have the opportunity to visit the Forbidden City, the Terracotta Warriors, a silk factory, and of course the Great Wall – one of the Seven Wonders of the medieval world! Each day will hold new and exciting adventures. Observe Ching-Yi Lin as she presents a master class at the famous Xi’an Conservatory for Chinese students. Musicians from our partner universities will join forces with The Symphony and you will experience first-hand the power of music and realize why it has long been considered the true universal language. We will depart on May 12 and will return on June 26, 2013, flying out of Nashville International Airport. A complete itinerary and cost will be posted on WKU’s website this fall.

Join us to see China as few visitors ever do and personally engage in the realization of WKU’s vision as it continues in its quest to become A Leading American University with International Reach.

**Pi Kappa Lambda Inductees**

Six students, selected by Pi Kappa Lambda departmental faculty members, were inducted into the WKU Theta Eta Chapter of Pi Kappa Lambda, a national honorary music society. The criteria for selection included academic achievement, musical skill and stellar character from the junior, senior and graduate students. The induction ceremony took place at the Faculty House in May 2012.

Clockwise, from front center, Elizabeth Beach (voice), Cara Stevens (flute), Alyna Bloecher (violin), Dr. Jennifer Adam (faculty), Ben Stofer (voice), Daniel McKillip (percussion) and Curtis Turner (percussion)
Aleshia Akin, ’10, is director of music at Christian Academy of Indiana in New Albany, Indiana.

Erin Austin, ’11, works at WDRB in Louisville as an assignment editor, and her duties entail writing stories that appear in the newscasts, placing those stories on the WDRB website and Facebook, assigning reporters to stories and handling station correspondence.

Talor Barnett, ’11, will be the general music and chorus teacher at Northeast Middle School in Clarksville, TN (Clarksville-Montgomery County School District).

Brad Baumgardner, ’03, received his DMA from the Conservatory of Music and Dance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, using his composition, Pictures of Strangers for Wind Ensemble to complete his dissertation. Dr. Baumgardner served as the assistant director of the UMKC’s new music ensemble, remained active as a player both in experimental music and standard ensembles and taught classes in orchestration, ensemble for composers, listening lab, composers in the schools, private composition instruction and composition forum.

Trish (Schlicht) Beresford, ’93 & ’10; MM ’95, will be the choral director at Bowling Green High School in Bowling Green, KY.

Timothy Buckman, ’99, will release the first full length album of his classical compositions in October of this year. The album will feature his award winning Design & Fluctuations for solo flute, which was written at WKU under the tutelage of Dr. Charles Smith, as well as a brand new violin fantasy, Weep No More, My Lady!, based on the popular Stephen Foster song, My Old Kentucky Home. Dr. Buckman has recently received commissions from groups such as the Mountain Music Ensemble and marimba Gilmar Goulart, placed music in primetime TV shows on networks such as E! and Oxygen, and had his works published by music libraries such as Sky Bound Entertainment, inDigi Music and Tinderbox Music. He currently resides in the Denver metropolitan area and works as a freelance composer, guitarist, and songwriter. In addition to his compositional activities, he is an active member and performer with the Kory Brunson Band, who just released their first national single, Girls Night Out, to country radio.

Courtney (Greenfield) Calvert, ’10, will be teaching music at Eastern Elementary (Barren County Schools).

Lauren Carr, ’10, currently works as a repair technician for Miyazawa flutes, Hamlig piccolos, and Trevor James flute, and is living in Coralville, Iowa. Lauren attended the National Flute Association convention and the Florida Flute Association conventions this year as a representative of Miyazawa flutes. Lauren also plays flute in the Iowa Community Band and the Cedar Rapids Municipal Band.

Andrew Cusick, ’11, has begun work on a master’s degree in Speech-Language Pathology at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky.

Adrienne (Hayes) Demirelli, ’09, opened her music agency, Adrienne Demirelli Productions,” in January and is currently working for 5 ensembles and one composer in medieval to contemporary music in Paris, France, as well as freelancing for two well-known music agencies. Check out www.adriennedemirelli.com for more information.

Kate Douglas, ’11, was accepted into an internship program in Washington, DC, for the spring 2012 semester. Congressman Brett Guthrie offered this internship to educate students to the workings of the U.S. House of Representatives in a hands-on, fast-paced environment, with primary duties including such things as providing constituent services to callers, assisting staff with research, attending hearings and briefings, and performing administrative duties.

Shain Fike, ’04, returned to Bowling Green in September to perform in Jason Robert Brown’s The Last Five Years.

Scott Gardner, BA, a member of the band, Sleeper Agent, had their debut single, “Get it Daddy,” rated as #14 on Rolling Stone’s 50 Best Singles of 2011 list.

Heather Heim, ’08, will be appearing this summer as Mrs. Carnegie in The Stephen Foster Story, as a chorus member in Seussical the Musical, and has been engaged as an ensemble member in the Kentucky Opera for fall 2012.

Susan Houghton, ’10; MAE ‘12, attended the 75th anniversary camp celebration at New England Music Camp in summer of 2011, attended the 2012 ASTA National Conference in Atlanta, GA, and had an article published in the ASTA Student Newsletter in the Fall of 2011 about establishing a student ASTA chapter at WKU, that included the following paragraph:

The focus of the WKU chapter is service. String education in the Bowling Green/Warren County area is exploding! There are more opportunities than ever before for us to assist local string teachers and volunteer with The Symphony at WKU. So far this semester, members of our Student ASTA Chapter have volunteered over 75 hours taking concert posters to local businesses, assisting public school string teachers and volunteering to prepare for our annual WKU String Invitational. Members have signed up to volunteer weekly at various public schools in our area. We are so excited about the impact we are making in our community through service. We are also organizing a chapter recital to help raise funds. This will be the second year that our symphony will host a Student Concerto Competition and Concert. Our chapter will be responsible for publicity which will involve posters, programs, as well as TV and radio interviews. Dr. Bill Scott, our Chapter Advisor and Orchestra Director, will earmark all the proceeds to our ASTA chapter. With the funds that we hope to raise, it is our plan to establish four Pre-College Strings Scholarships for the 2012-2013 school year.
Jamie (Rone) Hunt, ’03, graduated in May 2012 with her Master of Music degree from Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas, where she has been studying flute performance with Dr. Adah Jones. Jamie was a member of the 2011 National Flute Association’s professional flute choir and participated in a master class with the notable Dr. Walfrid Kujala at WKU in January of 2012. Jamie was inducted in Pi Kappa Lambda, the national music honorary society in 2012. She teaches private flute lessons in Austin, Texas, where she lives with her husband, Jeremy Hunt.

Melissa (Gensler) Keeling, ’10, is relocating to New York City and will begin doctoral studies in flute performance at the City University of New York as a student of Robert Dick. She completed her Master of Music degree in flute performance at Middle Tennessee State University in May 2012. At MTSU, she was a teaching assistant and served as principal flute in the MTSU Wind Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra. She performed as a soloist with the MTSU Chamber Orchestra on October 2011 and gave her Master's recital in April 2012. During the 2011-2012 school year, Melissa composed Illuminati Breakdown! and since feeling is first for solo flute and backing track, Gingersnap! for flute and contrabass flute, and an arrangement of Led Zeppelin’s Black Dog. She was selected as a Young Artist Competition Alternate for the Flute Society of Kentucky 2012 Festival, and she served as an adjudicator, clinician, and soloist at the 2012 Flute Society of Kentucky Festival. Melissa’s work can be viewed on http://www.youtube.com/sonyqtv.

Mary Alice (Ratzlaff) Kolko, ’06, currently lives in Chico, California, with her husband and two cats. In addition to working full time, she recently played flute in the musicals Brigadoon and Oklahoma!, performed on a commissioned sacred work, and performed the Poulenc Sonata and the Burnham Dickinson Trilogy on a chamber recital. Mary Alice is active teaching and performing in chamber ensembles and orchestras in the northern California area and sings in the North Valley Chamber Chorale.

Aundrey Ligon, ’04, MAE ’07, will be appearing this summer as Old Joe Aiken in The Stephen Foster Story and as Wickersham Brother in Seussical the Musical.

Travis Lowe, ’11, will be the choral director at Butler County High/Middle School in Morgantown, KY.

Matthew Lund, ’12, will be the music specialist at Crestwood Elementary School in the Oldham County School district, Crestwood, KY.

Bronson Murphy, ’08, will be appearing this summer as Stephen Foster in The Stephen Foster Story and will be the Musical Director for Seussical the Musical.

Billy Orton, ’76, First Baptist Church Minister of Music (Huntsville, AL), who has not been on campus in twenty years, attended the dedication of the WKU Music Rehearsal Hall in May, citing, “…..what a joy it was to be there yesterday…the whole event was masterfully done. I LOVE the building and am so proud of what it can mean to future generations of students.”

Caitlin Pope, ’08, will be entering graduate school at Belmont University in Nashville, TN, majoring in vocal performance.

Casey (Allmon) Powell, ’06, just finished her sixth year teaching music at Barren County Middle School in Glasgow, KY, where she started a strings program in 2010. She attended the American String Teacher’s Association Conference in Atlanta in March 2012 and plans to apply this information while implementing a district-wide string program in Barren County. She received recognition from the Barren County Board of Education as the District Certified Teacher of the Month in November 2011 and was awarded a plaque and Chamber of Commerce gift certificate. Her orchestra attended the KMEA concert festival for the first time this year and received distinguished ratings for their prepared pieces and sight reading. In addition to her busy work and parenting schedule, Casey enjoys being a skating member of the Vette City Vixens Roller Derby Team and is an active local Zija distributor.

Kallie Rogers, ’10, will be attending Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL, in the fall of 2012 as a graduate teaching assistant pursuing a DM in flute performance. She will also serve as Vice President of the Flute Association at FSU. She graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in May 2012. At MTSU, she served as a graduate assistant and was selected to be the Outstanding Graduate Woodwind Performer in flute. She was the assistant coordinator for the 2012 MTSU Flute Festival, where she also presented a clinic for parents of young flutists. At the 2012 Flute Society of Kentucky Festival, she presented a clinic for college students about financing artistic endeavors and also performed the Beaser Mountain Songs on the chamber music recital. In August 2012, Kallie will be presenting and performing at the NFA Convention in Las Vegas. She will be performing on an afternoon recital, “Ruby Tuesday,” and will also be a guest panelist for one of the career workshops, “Making it Happen.”

Jacob Sensenig, ’09, who received the highly competitive Ruth K. Jacobs Memorial Scholarships from Choristers Guild for the 2012-2013 school year, is pursuing a graduate degree at Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

Kara (Oglesby) Smith, ’10, is teaching music at Trigg County Middle School in Cadiz, KY.

Amy Spears, ’12, will be a graduate assistant at WKU in the fall of 2012 while working on a master’s degree in music.

Dayana (Guerra) Staples, ’10, is a member of the United States Marine band.

Curtis Turner, ’12, will be a graduate assistant at WKU in the fall of 2012 while working on a master’s degree in music.

In Memoriam

Spencer Wills, ’11, 1989-2012
“In the fall we do solos, scenes, ensembles or a one-act opera. That allows me to work more closely with individuals and still give them an opportunity to perform. In the spring we combine with the Department of Theatre and Dance to mount a full opera or musical production—sets, lights, costumes, props, orchestra—the whole nine yards. We alternate—one year an opera, the next year a musical.”

I’ve made that statement many times—either to prospective students, community members, colleagues from other universities or friends. It’s even in my Facebook profile. For the past 13 years I have been the Music Director for the Mainstage Co-productions. I’ve worked with five directors, four conductors (including me), five rehearsal accompanists, and eight choreographers. These teams have been phenomenal and the technical staff has been simply amazing. Our WKU students (on stage, in the pit and behind the scenes) have been equally phenomenal and amazing. Year after year, they find the artists within themselves and create something that goes well beyond the average student production. They’ve seen that the university believes in this significant event we call a show, and they compete, prepare, encourage, coach and challenge each other and deliver a remarkable product with maturity and integrity. I know these productions have been a distinguishing feature of our departments for decades. Thanks, alumni. We’re keeping your Hilltopper spirit alive.
The Fall 2011 Performers of the Semester were L to R, seated, Nick Hall (guitar), Curtis Turner (percussion); standing, Daniel Brashear (piano), Amy Spears (woodwind), Lauren Ganote (voice), John Logan Wood (voice), Elizabeth Whitters (strings) and Chris Blake (brass). The Performer of the Semester, chosen by the faculty, was Elizabeth Whitters.

The Spring 2012 Performers of the Semester were L to R, seated, Josh White (woodwind), Dale Adams (guitar), Lindsey Byrd (piano), Alyna Bloecher (strings); standing, Andy Edelen (percussion), Conner Eisenmenger (brass), Molly Nance (voice), Nathaniel Brown (organ) and Josh Pulley (voice). The Performer of the Semester, chosen by the faculty, was Molly Nance.

The Mainstage Playbill
(Not shown at left)

Pippin (Stephen Schwartz)—2000
The Tender Land (Aaron Copland)—2001
Suor Angelica & Gianni Schicchi (Giacomo Puccini)—2003
Ragtime (Stephen Flaherty)—2006
Little Harlequinade (Antonio Salieri) Trial By Jury (Gilbert & Sullivan)—2009
A Game of Chance (Seymour Barab)—2010

Performers of the Semester

Gallantry, a Soap Opera (Douglas Moore)—2001
Chicago (Kander and Ebb)—2002
Sweeney Todd (Stephen Sondheim)—2004
The Gondoliers (Gilbert & Sullivan)—2005
Street Scene (Kurt Weill)—2007
Sweet Charity (Cy Coleman)—2008
The Devil and Daniel Webster (Douglas Moore) —2010
Oklahoma! (Rodgers and Hammerstein)—2012
Heidi Álvarez, flute, served as the program chair, site host, and treasurer for the Flute Society of Kentucky Festival in January 2012 with guest artist, Walfrid Kujala. The conference also featured clinicians and recitalists from Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia and Italy. At this conference, Álvarez performed Kallstrom’s The Falling Cinders of Time (2011) for solo flute and also premiered Kallstrom’s, In The Clear Blue (2011) for two flutes and piano with Kathy Karr (University of Louisville) and Chia-Ling Hsieh (Morehead State University). Álvarez premiered Kallstrom’s Silken Kisses Slip Away (2011) with mezzo-soprano Liza Kelly and pianist Donald Speer, performed a full recital at WKU, and gave a master class and recital at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington.

Mark Berry, percussion, began work on a research project commissioning several composers to contribute towards the formation of a collection of percussion works. He was invited to perform at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in Austin, TX. Collaborating with Heidi Álvarez, he recorded and produced the flute/percussion duo, The Music Falls In, by Michael Kallstrom. Berry gave a solo recital in March, premiering his original composition, Mehterân, for solo timpani. He performed as soloist and served as co-director for the percussion-featured concert, Shall I Play for Him, premiering his arrangement of Sonata No. 1 by J.S. Bach for steelpan soloist and 5-octave handbell choir, as well as the premiere of his original composition, Christmas in Chiapas.

In addition to directing the largest Big Red Marching Band in the history of WKU, Jeff Bright has had selected biographies published in the “Solo with Wind Band Accompaniment” released as part of the Teaching Music through Performance in Band series. He also presented research titled "Music Educator Job Satisfaction and its effect of Recruitment and Retention for the Music Education Profession" at the NAfME Biennial Music Educators Conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

John Cipolla, clarinet/saxophone, continues to perform new and traditional core clarinet and saxophone repertoire—Academia de Música Castelo de Paiva (Portugal); MusicFest Northwest (Spokane, Washington); University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Western Kentucky University; Radio City Music Hall (New York City). He continues to write reviews for The Clarinet, official journal for The International Clarinet Association, for which he is serving as president (2012-2014). John serves as the KMEA College/University Division Chair. Many of his students at WKU are now successfully teaching in the public schools, attending graduate programs, or serving our country in the military as musicians.

Department Head Mitzi Groom has been shepherding the completion of the new music facilities and working with local, state and national constituents to receive approval for the new Master of Music degree. She is completing her second term as a Commissioner on the 18-member National Association of Schools of Music Accreditation Commission, and is one of three members on the national ACDA Endowment Trust Committee.

Paul Hondorp, choir, continued as a tenor in the Dallas-based professional chamber choir Vox Humana, with performances in October 2011 and March 2012, and professional
Michael Kallstrom, composition, received performances of his music at Pacific Lutheran University; the Cagefest in Chattanooga, TN, in collaboration with dancer Rebekah Mawuko; the Society of Composers conference at Christopher Newport University; the Mid-South Horn Workshop in Arkansas where his work was played as a competition piece; and for SoundCrawl 2011 in Nashville, TN. He premiered his IMPROVS, for improvising bass voice, animated videos and electronic music at WKU; ARRIVAL was premiered by the WKU Wind ensemble; Heidi Álvarez performed his THE FALLING CINDERS OF TIME, and he collaborated with dancer Lisa D. Long on a dance work at the Center for Research and Development.

Wayne Pope, voice, performed in The Touches of Sweet Harmony (awarded for Creative Achievement in Opera by the New Orleans Foundation for Entertainment Development and Education), traveled to England where he performed at the Royal Air Force Base in Larkenheath, presented a recital of American music at St. Cuthbert’s Church in Thedford, conducted research on performing with period keyboards at Finchcock’s Historic Music Museum in Kent, was bass soloist in Schubert’s Mass in A-flat (Bowling Green Western Choral Society/Symphony), presented his annual faculty recital, served his second term as KY NATS Governor and presided over KYNATS student auditions at Morehead State University.

Bill Scott, orchestra, was honored at this year’s KMEA Convention by being named Music Educator of the Year by the Kentucky Chapter of the American String Teachers Association. He served as an adjudicator for the Tennessee Music Educators State Band and Orchestra Festival. He organized a “side-by-side” concert, featuring 20 select high school string students from the Bowling Green City and Warren County Schools, performing major orchestral literature with The Symphony at WKU on the March subscription concert. Scott also served as sponsor for WKU’s first student ASTA Chapter.

Robyn Swanson, music education, was named a Western Kentucky University Distinguished Professor in August, 2011. In November, she was presented the Altoria Award for her design and implementation of a P-12 Music and Movement Curriculum for the Kelly Autism Program. The Third District Music Educators Association named her the first recipient of the Robyn Swanson Legacy Award in February 2012. The National Association for Music Education and the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards (NCCAS) named Swanson as one of ten music writers to develop the framework and the music content for the Next Generation Arts Standards Project.

Elizabeth Volkman, voice, the newest Emerita Faculty member from the Department of Music, retired in May of 2012. Having been educated at the University of Colorado, Juilliard School of Music and the American Opera Center, she came to WKU in 1982. This was following her national debut with the Metropolitan Opera in 1976 and performing internationally in Germany, Sweden, Holland, Bulgaria, Belgium, Italy, Austria and France. While teaching at WKU, she performed as a soloist and with chamber musicians in Austria, England, France and Switzerland, and continued to serve as an adjudicator for the regional Metropolitan Opera Auditions.

She has been very active as a volunteer in community projects, including the Red Cross, and H.O.T.E.L. (Helping Others Through Extended Love) Inc., a community-based assistance program. She has been a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, and coached many students over the years to sing in their NATS vocal competitions. One of her students who graduated in 1989 stated, “Ms. Volkman is a highly respected artist in the arts profession in New York as well as internationally. Just the mention of her name and tutelage opened many doors for me in a business that tends to be difficult to break into. Ms. Volkman was a leading soprano in the major opera houses of the world for several years and brings her experience to her studio while she is still in demand for opera and symphonic performances.”

Promoted to Professor in 1991, she has influenced the vocal lives of pre-college and college students in a most positive way over the last thirty years as a member of the WKU voice faculty.

Mary Wolinski, music history, organized trips for over 100 students to see two productions of the Nashville Opera: Verdi’s La Traviata and Puccini’s Girl of the Golden West. She read a paper, “Hocketing and the Imperfect Modes in Relation to Poetic Expression in the Thirteenth Century,” at The Gothic Revolution conference, Princeton University in November 2011. Her translation of the thirteenth-century motet, Hare, hare, hye/ Balaam, Goudalier ont bien ouan/ Balaam, has been reprinted in the liner notes of a new CD, Crossing the Channel, performed by the ensemble Providencia and released by the German recording company TACET.

Department of Music
Emeriti Faculty Members

Bennie Beach
Kent Campbell
Howard Carpenter
Virgil Hale
David Kelsey
Sylvia Kersenbaum
David “Doc” Livingston
Ruth Morriss
Ohm Pauli
Dwight Pounds
Charles W. Smith
Elizabeth Volkman
Thomas Watson

Dwight Pounds (far right), WKU emeritus faculty, receiving Honorary Membership in International Viola Society, one of only five Americans to receive this honor.
Students Cross Cultures Through Music

Sarah Fox, a WKU sophomore music major and Presidential Scholar, is the first WKU student selected by the US-UK Fulbright Commission to attend a Fulbright Summer Institute for Undergraduates.

The Summer Institutes provide the opportunity for American freshmen and sophomores to go to the United Kingdom on a three- to six-week academic and cultural summer program.

Fox will have the opportunity to study with other high-achieving students at Newcastle University, explore the culture, heritage and history of the UK, and develop her academic ability by improving her presentation, research and communication skills.

An English minor, she will take one of several course options at Newcastle University, including creative writing and literary editing. Her music professors expect her to carry her talent and passion for music into a successful experience at Newcastle.

Ms. Fox was also selected to attend IdeaFestival, a world-class event that attracts leading global innovators and thinkers to discuss and celebrate imagination, new perspectives and transformational ideas, occurring in Louisville, KY, from September 17-22, 2012. She was one of only four WKU students who were selected for this exceptional opportunity by the WKU Office of the Provost, Deans of the six colleges and the Honors College. The IdeaFestival provides a unique stage to explore the cross-cutting nature of innovation involving a range of diverse disciplines, while supplying the creative tools needed to “see,” synthesize and apply this knowledge in new, dynamic ways.

Katie Knight, senior music major, was selected to attend The Manhattan School of Music’s Summer Voice Festival from May 18 - July 1, 2012. The Manhattan School of Music’s Summer Voice Festival is an intensive 6-week music performance program for singers college-age and older. Students take classes in acting, movement, diction and participate in weekly voice lessons, master classes and coachings with MSM voice faculty. During their time in New York, students also spend time preparing major works. This season’s productions will include Francesco Cavalli’s opera La Calisto accompanied by the Dorian Baroque Orchestra, Stephen Sondheim’s musical A Little Night Music, an original musical revue of songs by Irving Berlin, and a program of opera and musical theater scenes.

Josh Miller, junior liberal arts-music major, was awarded Second Place in the Collegiate Division of the 2012 “Traditional Negro Spiritual” vocal competition sponsored by the Bellarmine University Chorale and the Kentuckiana Branch of the National Association of Negro Musicians, with his rendition of Moses Hogan’s “Give Me Jesus.”

Keith Pennington, sophomore music education major from Alexandria, KY, studied abroad in conjunction with the KIIS program in Austria in the summer of 2012, taking courses in music history and literature. Pennington has studied violin since he was eight years old, is giving lessons to pre-college students and has a passion for music where he would “like to inspire children to want to play the violin and enjoy music.”
Greg Lyons, a native of Leitchfield, Kentucky, has been actively involved in music education as a teacher on the middle and high schools levels in Kentucky public schools, and as the President and owner of Royal Music Company, Inc. Lyons holds the Bachelor of Music and Masters of Arts in Education (Music Education) degrees from Western Kentucky University, where he served as a student conductor of many performing brass ensembles. He was a distinguished member of the WKU Concert and Marching Bands, Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Band and other groups, including the Shaker Singers. Lyons served two terms as President of the Iota Mu Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha. During his tenure at WKU, he twice produced the Miss Western pageant (a preliminary event for Miss Kentucky).

After graduation, Lyons served as director of bands at Muhlenberg Central High School, Meade County High School and Glasgow High School. His bands consistently earned distinguished ratings in Grade V and VI at concert and marching festivals and many of his students went on to major in music. In 1986, Lyons was selected by Phi Beta Mu as the Outstanding Young Band Director in Kentucky. His involvement with the Kentucky Music Educators Association includes serving as District President, District Band Chair, and representative to the Marching Band Board of Control. Lyons was a member of the team that developed the Kentucky Selective Music List, which serves as the reference guide for band literature for KMEA Concert Band Festivals.

In 1991, Lyons and his wife Paula (BM ’81 & MAE ’86) bought Royal Music. Together, they have been a benevolent foundation of musical arts in Bowling Green. Lyons has grown and expanded Royal Music to be the primary resource for music educators in South Central Kentucky and Northern Tennessee. Sought after as a clinician and adjudicator, Lyons remains immersed in music education on many levels. He has served on the WKU Alumni Association National Board of Directors and the Vestry at Christ Episcopal Church. He is the proud parent of two musicians, Austin and Kristen. Visit www.wku.edu/musicwall to learn more.
Ongoing Legacies
2011-2012 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Scholarship students and music faculty in attendance at the Potter College of Arts and Letters awards ceremony in April 2012: L to R, seated, Amy Spears, Taylor Akin, Madelyn Cook, Valerie Martin, Curtis Turner, Kathryn Aquadro, Mitzi Groom; standing, Jeff Bright, Bill Scott, Ching-Yi Lin, John Cipolla, Conner Eisenmenger, Drew Tucker, Joe Stites, Blake Cox, Josh Bloecher, Nathaniel Brown.

Jerry Baker Scholarship
Samantha Miller, violin, Sedalia, KY
Jordan Wheaton, viola, Bowling Green, KY

Bennie Beach, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
Lauren Ganote, voice, Crestwood, KY
Curtis Turner, percussion, Rockport, IN

Jean Blankenship Scholarship
Nicholas Hall, guitar, Louisville, KY
Madelyn Cook, horn, Portland, TN

Howard Carpenter String and Piano Scholarship
Justin Kirby, piano, Lewisburg, KY
Josh Bloecher, violin, Fulton, KY

Blanche and Austin Dukett Strings Music Scholarship
Steven Stewart, violin, Bowling Green, KY
Chad Coomer, violin, Louisville, KY
Alyna Bloecher, violin, Fairbanks, AK
Elias Kleinsmith, violin, Louisville, KY

Bennie Beach, Jr., Memorial Scholarship
Lauren Ganote, voice, Crestwood, KY
Curtis Turner, percussion, Rockport, IN

Jean Blankenship Scholarship
Nicholas Hall, guitar, Louisville, KY
Madelyn Cook, horn, Portland, TN

Bowling Green Music Club Scholarship
Amy Spears, saxophone, Alvaton, KY
Ethan Kinkle, voice, Louisville, KY

Athena Cage Scholarship
Matt Crocker, trombone, Franklin, TN
Sarah Fox, piano, Russellville, KY
Conner Eisenmenger, trombone, Prospect, KY

Kent Campbell Scholarship
Taylor Akin, euphonium, Magnolia, KY

Howard Carpenter String and Piano Scholarship
Justin Kirby, piano, Lewisburg, KY
Josh Bloecher, violin, Fulton, KY

Blanche and Austin Dukett Strings Music Scholarship
Steven Stewart, violin, Bowling Green, KY
Chad Coomer, violin, Louisville, KY
Alyna Bloecher, violin, Fairbanks, AK
Elias Kleinsmith, violin, Louisville, KY

Larnelle and Cynthia Harris Scholarship
Brittany Carter, voice, Bowling Green, KY

Sylvia Kersenbaum Scholarship
Kathryn Aquadro, bassoon, Louisville, KY

Music Department Faculty Scholarship
Shaun Baxley, trumpet, Shelbyville, KY
Chris Blake, trumpet, Greenville, KY
Andrew Tucker, horn, Hodgenville, KY
Guytano Martorana, tuba, Cleaton, KY

Hugh F. Johnson Scholarship
Josh Bloecher, violin, Fulton, KY

Ohm Pauli Scholarship
Alyna Bloecher, violin, Fairbanks, AK
Josh Bloecher, violin, Fulton, KY
Jordan Wheaton, viola, Bowling Green, KY
Susan Houghton, cello, Bowling Green, KY
Matt Shepherd, string bass, Glasgow, KY

Edward J. Pease Memorial Scholarship
Matt Lund, saxophone, Lagrange, KY
Angela Cook, oboe, White Plains, KY
Michael Menser, guitar, Dawson Springs, KY
Allison Sanders, clarinet, Louisville, KY

Charles W. Smith Scholarship
Valerie Martin, flute, Bowling Green, KY

Seymour Spiegelman Scholarship
Blake Cox, voice, Brandenburg, KY

Dr. Samuel W. and Jeane Payne Tinsley Music Scholarship
Nathaniel Brown, organ, Bowling Green, KY

Marita Hawley Travelstead Scholarship
Julia Fisher, voice, Louisville, KY
Kate Douglas, voice, Owensboro, KY
Aaron Talley, voice, Franklin, KY
Josh Pulley, voice, Hendersonville, TN

Nelle Gooch Travelstead Scholarship
Tristan Milburn, voice, Shelbyville, KY

Vitale String Scholarship
Alyna Bloecher, violin, Fairbanks, AK

From the Archives

Elizabeth Volkman in New York City

“Doc” Livingston and the Jazz Band

Greg Lyons, Wall of Fame honoree

WKU Department of Music
Make a Gift

Please make a gift today to support the WKU Department of Music or a departmental program of your choice. Your financial support will provide opportunities for students through scholarship support, study abroad experiences, and ensemble performances. Thank you for investing in us.

☐ I want to help ensure excellence in the Department of Music with my total gift of $_______________________

☐ Check (Please make payable to the WKU Foundation)

☐ Electronic Funds Transfer (Please include a VOIED check)

Monthly Gift $__________ Effective Date _____/____/____

☐ Visa  ☐ American Express

☐ Mastercard  ☐ Discover

☐ My gift is eligible to be matched by my employer (Please enclose your company's matching gift form)

Name ____________________________________________________________

Home Address ____________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State ______ Zip _______

Home Phone __________________________ Email _______________________

For more information on giving, contact: Leslie Watkins, Sr. Dir. of Development for Potter College of Arts & Letters at Western Kentucky University • 1906 College Heights Blvd. Bowling Green, KY 42101
Phone: (270) 745-6993 • Email: leslee.watkins@wku.edu

Friends

The Department of Music is most appreciative to have this honor roll that notes the philanthropic support of our friends and alumni, whose gifts make a difference in the musical lives of both our students and faculty.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Akin
Nona Christine Akridge
Dr. Emery Eugene Alford
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Appelman
Gertrude Bale Estate
Jana K. Ballard
Pearl H. and Bennie P. Beach, Sr.
Betty Jo Beaud
Beverly J. Bell
Patricia S. Bieresford
Dr. and Mrs. Mark E. Bigler
Dr. George Corban Goble
Dr. and Mrs. Melvin V. Borland, Jr.
Sue F. Borders
Karen Blum
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Preston Boggs
Donna Jo Deason Dubrock
Jim Johnson Pontiac Nissan
Jim and Darlene Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Dyer
Gail B. Dixon
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dodd
Dorothy Gise Dodson
Bonnie Douglas
Clara Louise Dubbs
Donna Jo Deason Dubrock
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Dyer
Barbara and Charles E. English, Sr.
John O. Fitts
Sandi and Gary Force
Dr. Sylvia S. Gasko
Barbara P. Gary
Adrienne E. Gerber
Dr. George Corban Goble
Robert A. Goodwin
Mary W. Gordon
Sandra S. Gott
Graves Gilbert Clinic
Dr. Murphy Howard Green
Barbara and John D. Girder
Joseph and Dr. Mitzi D. Groom
Warren Edward Guyer
Frances F. Hall
Mr. and Mrs. Peter S. Hallgren
Mr. and Mrs. James Douglas Harris, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Lamelle Steward Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Harrison
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Preston Hodges
Jennifer and Paul Hondorp
Joan Emily Howard
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Hunt
Dett P. and Robin R. Hunter
Dr. Martha S. Ivey
Bobbie and Patrick (d.) Jackson
Jim Johnson Pontiac Nissan
Jim and Darlene Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Johnson
Robert Bradley Johnston
Paul Joseph Just, III
Nick and Pat Kafoglis
Dr. Mike Kanan
Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey P. Katz
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel B. Kent, Jr.
Sylvia H. Kerosensam
Dr. Stephen E. and Linda J. King
Bob and Joan Krenzin
Debra Gall Lanham
Carl W. Lee
Dr. David and Laura Harper Lee
Mitchell Leitchhardt
Dr. and Mrs. Larry W. Long
Dr. Charles L. Lovett, Jr
Catherine Miller Lowe
Paula and Greg Lyons
Mr. and Mrs. John Wesley Madison
Gary Wayne Martin
Ltc. Ronald O. McCown
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hardin McFarland
George Anna and William Y. McKenzie, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Dewayne Moseley
Dr. and Mrs. Gordon B. Newell
Dan O’Brien
Linda W. O’Brien
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Orton, Jr.
Bunny and Mike Owsey
Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Palmer
Dr. and Mrs. John David Parker
Michael Lee Parrett
Dr. and Mrs. Jon W. Paul
Sue and Dr. Ohn W. Pauli (d.)
Frances D. Perdue
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley T. Petrie
Dr. and Mrs. John H. Peterson
Drs. Linda and Charles Pickle
Dr. and Mrs. Dwight Ray Pounds
Allan Pribble
Henrietta and Larry Profancik
Linda and Dr. Robert W. Pulinelli
Virginia Ann Pyzola
Miriam B. Ramirez
Dr. and Mrs. Gary A. Ransdell
Dr. Bill W. Rideout
Elizabeth R. Ross
Royal Music Company, Inc.
Dale Royse
Norma Jean Ruble
Michelle H. Salisbury
Cathi and Mike Sanders
Marie B. Sanfratello
Clance P. Scarborough
Kenneth William Schmidt
Janet M. Schwarzkopf

Bill and Susan Scott
Dr. Lowell William Shank
Dr. Elizabeth Lynn Shoenfelt
Brenda B. Shores
Bob and Pat Simpson
Dr. James Darrell Skaggs
Ruth and Fred Skaggs
Jennifer and William Skaggs
Dr. and Mrs. Julius John Sloan, Ill
Eldon J. Smith
Tina Weber Smith
Manjorie Keller Spaiding
Col. and Mrs. Robert E. Spiller
Linda and Thomas B. Stephens
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel L. Stone
Doris Pruitt Strain
Dr. Robyn K. Swanson
Lillian W. Thomas
Patrick A. Thomas
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lloyd Thompson
Jean Thompson
Janet and Stephen Tolopka
Mr. and Mrs. Perry Glenn Vincent
Dr. and Mrs. Rick Voakes
Drs. Comella and Arvin Vos
Helen S. Walsh
Chris and Leslie Watkins
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Watkins
Melissa B. Webb
Juanita Moore Weiss
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel H. Whitaker
Bart and Carol White
Roland and Mary Frances Willock
Mary Lou Wood
Melanie R. Wood
Pamela Yakel
Dr. and Mrs. Stuart G. Yeoman

Steve King (BM ’64), Gitauba, VA, Kathryn Costello, VEEP for Dev/Alumni Relations, Linda King, WKU President Gary Ransdell
Join us for our annual scholarship benefit recital, *Autumn Collage: Chamber Music on the Hill*, October 21, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. in the FAC Recital Hall, with a reception following.