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Summer 2012 Newsletter

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Department of Music
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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.



Music Rehearsal Hall dedication in May 2012



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)

WEST MEETS EAST IN 2013: The Symphony in China

by Bill Scott, orchestra director, Baker Professor 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.



Ching-Yi Lin, concertmaster, and Don Speer, performing at the President's Gala

ALUMNI ACCOLADES

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 marimbist 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, Hammig 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 *Oklahomal*, 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

LUCKY 13 AND COUNTING!

BY WAYNE POPE,
DIRECTOR OF OPERA THEATRE



Beauty and the Beast (Allen Menken)—2010



Bastien and Bastienna (W. A. Mozart)—2009



"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.



Gallantry, a Soap Opera (Douglas Moore)—2001



Sweeney Todd (Stephen Sondheim)—2004



Street Scene (Kurt Weill)—2007



The Devil and Daniel Webster (Douglas Moore) —2010



Chicago (Kander and Ebb)—2002



The Gondoliers (Gilbert & Sullivan)—2005



Sweet Charity (Cy Coleman)—2008



Oklahoma! (Rodgers and Hammerstein)—2012

Performers of the Semester



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



High notes

Music Faculty Updates

Now in her second year at WKU, **Jennifer Adam**, *music education*, had her research published in *The Choral Journal* about William Averitt's *St. Matthew Passion*. She was the conductor of the KMEA Third District Elementary Honors Choir. In addition to these activities, she has returned to a passion from her past life as a K-12 public school teacher - a love of community children's choirs. In January 2012, the first rehearsals of the Southern Kentucky Children's Choir (SOKY CC) began with a group of 20 singers in grades 4-6. Rehearsing every Tuesday from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, Bowling Green, the choir had its debut performance on the Van Meter stage in conjunction with the WKU Men's and Women's Choruses concert on April 29. The children's choir also provides opportunities for a music education major to serve as a student intern and gain experience conducting a children's choir, as well as an opportunity for another student to serve as the accompanist for the ensemble. The SOKY CC will be auditioning for new members each semester, with students in grades 4-7 being considered for the 2012-13 school year. For more information on SOKY CC, friend us on Facebook and check out our website at www.wku.edu/childrening.



Southern Kentucky Children's Chorus

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

recording sessions for an upcoming compact disc on the Naxos label. He was guest conductor for the Chinese University of Hong Kong Chorus in June 2012, where he conducted a program of American Music and presented a workshop on choral methods for 150 choral music educators at the request of the Hong Kong Ministry of Education.

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 Lankensheath, 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 (left) and Elizabeth Volkman (right) 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, a music education major, is the daughter of Brian and Susan Fox of Russellville and a graduate of Russellville High School, the Governor's Scholars Program and Governor's School for the Arts. The Fulbright UK Summer Institute will extend her experience with prestigious academic programs well beyond Kentucky.

"Winning this scholarship is a dream come true," Fox said. "The music, land and people of the United Kingdom have always fascinated me, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to be immersed in a culture that has had a profound effect on my heritage and is yet so foreign."

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."



Master of Arts in Education (Music Education) Degrees

Chris Bidwell
Lindsay Buege
Johnathan Cline
Melanie Cundiff
Mike DiPasquale
Susan Houghton
Chuck Jewell
Cedrick Leavell
Liz Little
Beverly London
Byron Lucas
Susie Lucas
Jason Shores



Ellen Murrey, 2011 Scholar of Potter College

*cum laude

** magna cum laude

***summa cum laude

^Honors program graduate

Bachelor Degrees

Kacy Albany**, voice, BM
Susan Allpress, flute, BA
Kathryn Aquadro**, bassoon, BM
Jessica Ausbrooks, clarinet, BM
Talor Barnett*, voice, BM
Josh Bloecher, violin, BM
Sloan Burroughs, voice, BM
Blake Cox^, voice, BA
Daniel Crenshaw, horn, BA
Matt Crocker*, trombone, BM
Katherine Douglas***, voice, BA
Hershel Eason, percussion, BM
Julia Fisher***, voice, BA
Joey Greer, piano, BA
Nicholas Hall, guitar, BA
Eric Jones, euphonium, BA
Lee Keeling, guitar, BM
Ethan Kinkle*^, voice, BM
Amanda Knowles*, clarinet, BM
Amanda Ledford, voice, BA
Matt Lund***, saxophone, BM
Valerie Martin, flute, BM
Michael Menser*, guitar, BA
Jill Meredith, voice, BM
Ellen Murrey***, voice, BM
Jameson Price, voice, BM
Brittany Rossell**, voice, BA
Amy Spears***, saxophone, BM
Christine Stillwell, voice, BM
Curtis Turner**, percussion, BM

GREG LYONS

2011-12 WALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Lyons accepting 2012 Wall of Fame award from Wall of Fame chair, Wayne Pope.

Gregory 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

Howard Carpenter String and Piano Scholarship

Justin Kirby, piano, Lewisburg, KY
Josh Bloecher, violin, Fulton, KY

Blanche and Austin Duckett 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 Martorano, tuba, Cleaton, KY

Edward J. Pease Memorial Scholarship

Matt Lund, saxophone, Lagrange, KY
Angela Cook, oboe, White Plains, KY
Michael Menser, guitar, Dawson Springs, KY
Allyson 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

Susan Houghton, cello, Bowling Green, KY

Trace Die Cast/Mitzi Groom 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

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

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

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

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Steve King (BM '64), Catauba, VA, Catherine Costello, VEEP for Dev./Alumni Relations, Linda King, WKU President Gary Ransdell

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Chamber ensemble in rehearsal at Cabell House

From the Archives



Bass drum used by the marching band at football games and in parades, positioned in front of Van Meter Hall



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Greg Lyons, Wall of Fame honoree

Red and Grey Orchestra



"Doc" Livingston and the Jazz Band



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