PSU Jazz Festival to Feature Maynard Ferguson

On Friday, March 6, Pittsburg State University will host its 24th Annual Jazz Festival. Featured performers at this year’s event will be Maynard Ferguson and His Big Bop Nouveau Band.

This jazz legend, whose roots lie in the French-Canadian region of Québec, is known as a masterful trumpet player and band leader who has built his reputation on the blending of big band traditions with newer elements of contemporary jazz such as bebop, rock, and funk.

Co-sponsored by the PSU Performing Arts and Lecture Series, the concert by this renowned jazz artist and his band will take place at 8:00 pm in Pittsburg’s Memorial Auditorium following a full day of performances, clinics, and improvisation sessions involving jazz musicians from PSU and area high schools. The National Association of Secondary School Principals has placed this event on the 1997-98 National Advisory List of Contests and Activities as a regional program for students in Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

Ticket information may be obtained by calling the University Ticket Office at 316/235-4796. For other information about the Festival, contact Prof. Robert Kehle, director, at 316/235-4474.

Survey Results Are In

During the fall semester, the Department conducted a survey among music teachers in Kansas and the four-state region. Its intent was to learn about the needs of music teachers in the areas of graduate study and summer workshops. The survey also included a section about how the department is perceived by professionals in our region. The input we have received will help us with our public outreach, and it will guide us in designing as well as scheduling summer workshops. Area teachers should look for a separate mailing soon for more details about our offerings for Summer 1998.

Among the many concerts set for the Spring Semester, these Series offerings will continue:

Solo & Chamber Music Series
Robert Grayson, tenor
January 23
The Audubon Quartet
with Karen Dannessa, clarinet
March 3
Jorge Caballero, guitar
April 3
Fisk Organ Series
Jean Fuller
with Todd Hastings, trumpet
February 9
André Duane Lash
February 22
Mary Preston
March 31

Choirs Prepare for KMEA and National Cathedral Concerts

The University Choirs are preparing for what promises to be a rewarding semester, full of opportunities for musical growth. Their performance schedule begins on Friday, February 27, when the University Choir will be featured at the annual In-Service Workshop of the Kansas Music Educators Association. The concert, which will take place at 8:00 pm in the Concert Hall of the Century II complex in Wichita, will also present instrumental ensembles from Wichita State and the University of Kansas.

Following a home concert on March 15, the students will depart for a major Spring Break tour, with stops in St. Louis, Cincinnati, Washington, and Louisville. The centerpiece of this trip will be a performance at the Washington National Cathedral, where the ensemble will present the choral prelude to the service of Evensong on Sunday, March 22.

The third major project of the semester will be the annual collaboration with the Pittsburg Centennial Choir on Sunday, May 2. This year’s program is titled An English Choral Tapestry, and it will feature a rich sampling of sacred and secular music from the remarkable English choral tradition. This concert is set for 3:00 pm and will be held in the sanctuary of Pittsburg’s First United Methodist Church.
New Faculty Appointments

Three musicians joined the faculty of the Department of Music this fall. Here is a brief introduction to our new colleagues.

Richard Davis, baritone, travels north to us from an applied voice appointment at the University of Southwest Louisiana. He succeeds Dr. Paul Huybrechts as one of our studio voice teachers and director of the opera program.

Dr. Davis holds the Doctor of Music in Performance degree from Indiana University. In addition to his post at USL, he has served on the music faculties of Nazareth College, Oberlin Conservatory, and Penn State University. Throughout his teaching career he has maintained his activity as a performer. In the past two years, he has sung five roles with the New Orleans Opera, and he returns for more work with that company this spring. He is also active as an author, and among his recent contributions are articles in the American Music Teacher, Journal of Singing, and the Choral Journal.

Lynne Garrett, pianist, has been appointed to the PSU faculty at the retirement of Prof. John MacKay. She leaves a post as director of accompanying at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway.

Ms. Garrett is currently a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Eastman School of Music. She brings to this position a wealth of background as a solo artist, accompanist, and chamber musician. Included in this broad background are experiences as a freelance violinst, training in the areas of piano and theory pedagogy, and extensive work with students of diverse backgrounds through the well-known Community Music School of Buffalo, NY. Ms. Garrett brings this impressive background to a teaching appointment which includes music theory classes as well as studio piano teaching and coaching.

Wei-Kang Zhou, violinist, comes to us from a teaching position at Arkansas State University. Dr. Zhou succeeds Dr. Paul Carlson as the upper string specialist in the department.

As a student of Eudice Shapiro, Dr. Zhou received his DMA in violin performance at the University of Southern California. Born in Shanghai, China, he received his early musical training in Shanghai and taught at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music for seven years before coming to the United States in 1986. He brings a wealth of teaching experience to this position. Several of his former students are now playing in major American orchestras such as the Chicago Symphony, the National Symphony Orchestra, and the Houston Symphony.

Dr. Zhou's wife Helen is a violinist. The two have frequently performed as a violin/viola duo, and Mrs. Zhou is currently assisting as an instructor in the PSU Suzuki String Program.

IN MEMORIAM
Mrs. Jackie Waddill

News was received this summer of the passing, at age 90, of Mrs. Jackie Waddill, longtime patron of the string program at Pittsburg State. The university's association with Paul and Jackie Waddill had been established many years ago, and the Waddills counted among their very special friends Walter and Grace Osadchuk, Mary Elliott James, Paul Carlson, James Poulos, and Carolann Martin of the PSU faculty.

Dr. Paul Carlson, steward of the Waddill Endowment at the university for many years, said that the Waddills took particular delight in the annual Waddill Chamber Music Competition, a project that puts young musicians in touch with seasoned players of chamber music as they prepare each year for the event.

Dr. Carlson was also involved in many trips to Bartlesville, OK, often with PSU students, to play for the Waddills and keep them in touch with the results that their generosity had yielded. Reflecting on this aspect of their relationship, Dr. Carlson said, "I feel that all the genuine love which so many directed down to Bartlesville for the Waddills was felt by them in a very intimate way. They were some of the most precious people we had the privilege of knowing, and we can all take comfort that we expressed this love to them in a way which helped them feel most fulfilled."

Thanks to a truly extraordinary commitment to the string program at Pittsburg State, the dream of these very special people will live on well into the future. The Waddill String Endowment will continue as one of the principal sources of support for the Department of Music in the years ahead.
ALUMNI NEWS

Have we heard from you lately? If not, please take a moment to complete the response form and return it to us! This is the best way to keep our files updated and to share news of your recent activities with other members of the PSU Music Alumni network. Thanks!

R.D. (BME ‘53) and Lavonne (BM ‘52) Coppenbarger send word of their move to Greer, South Carolina.

Robert Ensor (BM ‘73, MM ‘74) has returned to the Pittsburg/JoPlin area and is becoming active as a pianist and collaborative musician in the region. He will begin a part-time appointment in the PSU Department of Music this spring, succeeding Lori Kehle in the theory and piano areas.

Jan (Miner) Friesen (BME ‘77) has been choral music director at Independence Middle School from 1994-97 and has recently accepted a position at Cherryvale, KS as instrumental director for grades 5-8 and high school band. She has also served as orchestra director for several stage productions of the Neevollah Festival. Jan’s husband Bob (‘77) is production manager at City Publishing Co. They have five children: Rob, 18; Jill, 15; Tricia, 12; and twins Mollie and Jaci, age 10.

David (BM ’75, MM ’76) and Pamela (BM ’74, MM ’75) Gaston reside in Memphis, TN, where David works as a curriculum specialist for the public schools and serves as director of music for Colonial Park United Methodist Church. Pamela continues as a professor of voice at the University of Memphis and maintains an active career as soloist. Recent projects have included collaborations with Mary Elliott James, PSU emeritus professor of viola, and with David in a performance of the Saint-Saëns Christmas Oratorio. They have twin daughters, Jacqueline and Jessica, who, at age eight, have won many honors in horseback riding.

D. Brian Giacomo (BME ‘93) is in his first year as band director at Hilldale Public Schools in Muskogee, OK, where he teaches marching band, concert band, jazz ensemble, and music appreciation. On weekends, Brian enjoys visiting his two girls, Amber, age ten, and Kasidy, age four, who live in Eufaula, OK.

Lucy Gilbert (MM ‘94) has resigned her position as a vocal teacher with the Webb City, MO school district in order to accept a position as middle school vocal instructor with the Carl Junction, MO schools. She is also serving as pianist and interim choir director for Fellowship Baptist Church in Joplin.

Kari (Holloway) Graham graduated from the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine in May ‘97. She is now practicing large animal and companion animal surgery in Vilonia, AR, and she hopes to find musical outlets in Little Rock.

Gail Hamilton (MM ‘78) sends word that, in addition to her private teaching and psychotherapy, she is working as volunteer coordinator (28 hours per week) for Families of the Blind. Lorraine, her seeing-eye dog, retired in December after ten years of faithful service. Gail began work with dog number three in January.

John Jarboe (BME ’65, MM ’70) and his family are all actively involved in the musical life of Little Rock, AR. John and his wife Karen are affiliated with the Arkansas Symphony. Additionally, John is conductor of the Arkansas Youth Symphony program, director of the Levy United Methodist choir, and band director for the Arkansas School for the Blind. In January ‘97, four members of the Jarboe family performed during the inaugural ceremonies for President Bill Clinton as members of the Immanuel Baptist Church Orchestra. All three of the children—Maria, Jeffrey, and Christina—are active in their school music programs.

Nancy (Thompson) Jones (MS ‘62) sends word of a reunion with Gary Green (BME ‘74) on September 12, when Gary visited the campus of Central Methodist College in Fayette, MO, to work with drama and music students at the school and to visit the Thuenemann Library of vocal music, maintained by Prof. Jones.

Gordon MacDonald (MM ’92) has departed Parsons, KS for Crosswell, MI, where he has accepted a position in the Crosswell-Lexington Community School system.

Evelyn (Butler) McCulloh (BSED ’31) has moved from Hermitage, TN to Morton Grove, IL in order to be closer to her great granddaughter Veronica Lee, who at four months has begun her career in vocal music.

Paul McGinty (BME ’90, MM ’91) and his wife Cathy proudly announce the birth of a son, Connor James.

Mary (Pierce) Neptune (BME ’67) is in her eighth year of teaching middle school strings and vocal music in Aurora, CO. She and her husband Calvin Neptune III celebrate their 30th anniversary this year. They have three children, but Mary writes that the empty nest will come next September.

Carolyn O’Brien (BME ‘91) has moved from Texas to California, settling in Berkeley with her husband Bob. Although she has continued teaching music in the public schools there, she is also investigating other possibilities, most of which are tied in some way to music composition.

Lisa (Pearman) Qualls (MM ’84) has been appointed Head of the Music Department and Choral Activities at Messenger College in Joplin, MO. As part of her duties there, she will direct the Messenger Choir, a select group which travels and ministers to churches throughout the United States and Canada. Lisa also serves as president of the Cartaghe chapter of the PSU Alumni Association. She and her husband David are active in the musical life of their church and community.

John Robb (BA ‘64, MA ’65) resides in Dime Box, TX, where he works as a reading teacher. He enjoys a musical outlet through his church, where he sings and plays trumpet.

Lori (Patnaude) Scanlin (BME ’96) is teaching music at the Central Heights schools in Richmond, KS.

Angie Shelton (BME ’92) has moved from Herington, KS to a new teaching position at Lexington Trails Middle School in Desoto, KS. Rumor has it that, although she broke her leg skydiving last year, she would do it again on a moment’s notice.

Robert Smith (BME ‘80) visited Emeritus Prof. Margaret Thuenemann in Pittsburg earlier this year with news of an opera career that is really blossoming in Germany. He continues as an ensemble member at the National Theater of Mannheim, and last April he made his debut at the famed Wagner festival in Bayreuth. He has also enjoyed recent opportunities to sing Verdi roles.

Angela (Shoup) Stansberry (BM ‘96) and her husband Jason proudly announce the birth of a daughter, Victoria Lynn, on October 8. Angela is completing work toward a teaching certificate at Missouri Southern State College. She also served as soloist at Kimberly Correll’s marriage to Matt Ford on November 22 in Pittsburg.

Pat Sweeten (MM ’89) writes with news that he has reenlisted for another few years with the Navy and will be playing with the Navy Band in Jacksonville, FL. His wife Michelle (BME ’86) continues in her teaching assignment with the Kenosha, WI public schools, where her duties include orchestra and general music.

Vinita (Hampton) Wright (BME ’82) sends word that she lives with her husband Jim in Chicago, where she continues her literary work. She was a book editor at Harold Shaw Publishers for four years, then moved to Tandyl House, where she has now been for three years. Vinita’s first novel, The Grace that Springs Eternal, (Multnomah Publishing) will make its appearance in February or March of this year.
Calendar of Events

January
12-13 Enrollment
14 Classes begin
15 Graduate Recital, Daphne Gong, piano, 7:30 pm
18 Stilwell concert, 7:30 pm
23 * Solo & Chamber Music Series: Robert Grayson, tenor, 7:30 pm
24 AGO Young Organist Academy, 9:00 am - noon
26 Guest Recital, Brian Jones, clarinet, 6:00 pm
27 Junior Recital, David Chamberlain, bass, 7:30 pm

February
1 Pittsburg Area Piano Concert, 6:30 pm
2 Faculty Recital, Wei-Kang Zhou, violin, and Carol Hoyt, piano, 7:30 pm
6 Senior Recital, Lisa Dunn, flute, 7:30 pm
9 Guest Recital, Jean Fuller, organ, and Todd Hastings, trumpet, 7:30 pm
13 * PSU Opera Production: H.M.S. Pinafore, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
15 * PSU Opera Production: H.M.S. Pinafore, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
17 Junior Recital, Pei-Hua Kan, piano, 7:30 pm
22 Guest Recital, André Duane Lash, organ, 3:00 pm
24 University Band, First United Methodist Church, 7:30 pm

March
3 * Solo & Chamber Music Series: Audubon String Quartet, with Karen Dannessa, clarinet, 7:30 pm
6 PSU Jazz Festival, Memorial Auditorium, all day.
6 * Festival Concert featuring Maynard Ferguson and his Big Bop Nouveau Band, 8:00 pm
8 * Southeast Kansas Symphony, Memorial Auditorium, 3:00 pm
10 Faculty Recital, Kathryn Parke, soprano, 7:30 pm
14 KFMC Junior Festival, all day
15 University Choirs, 3:00 pm
17 John MacKay Tribute Concert, 7:30 pm
18 Graduate Recital, Wen-Hui Cheng, soprano, 7:30 pm
21 Mid-America Piano Festival, all day
31 * Guest Recital, Mary Preston, organ, 7:30 pm

April
3 * Solo & Chamber Music Series: Jorge Caballero, guitar, 7:30 pm
5 SEK String Orchestra, 7:30 pm
11 KMTA Auditions, all day
14 University Band, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
16 State Large Ensemble Festival, all day
16 Chamber Winds, 7:30 pm
17 Waddill Chamber Music Competition
18 Mid-America Music Festival, all day
21 Waddill Competition Winners Concert, 7:30 pm
22 Senior Recital, Atsuko Matsuyama, soprano, 7:30 pm
23 Jazz Ensemble, 7:30 pm
24 Graduate Recital, Robert Jenkins, organ, 7:30 pm
26 * Southeast Kansas Symphony, 3:00 pm
27 Student Composers Concert, 7:30 pm
30 Suzuki Strings, 7:00 pm

May
1 Senior Recital, Tammy Frevele, piano, 7:00 pm
3 * University Choirs and Pittsburg Centennial Choir: An English Choral Tapestry, First United Methodist Church, 3:00 pm
7 Four-State Band, Memorial Auditorium, all day
15,16 Commencement

* Tickets required. For further information, contact the PSU Department of Music (316/235-4466). Please consult local news media for changes and/or updates to the above information and for additional calendar events.

1998 PSU Opera Production

Gilbert & Sullivan's H.M.S. Pinafore

Friday, February 13
7:30 pm

Sunday, February 15
3:00 pm

Memorial Auditorium
Pittsburg

Arthur Best establishes string scholarship

Arthur Best (‘31) has endowed a music scholarship through the PSU Foundation that will provide significant financial assistance for future generations of students at Pittsburg State.

Mr. Best majored in physical education at the university, earning the BSED degree in 1931. His wife, Marjorie Craig Best, earned a lifetime teaching certificate in music education from PSU. Following a career that included much teaching in rural schools, Mr. Best now resides in Oswego, KS.

In awarding scholarships from the Marjorie Craig Best Endowment, there will be a special focus on music education students whose primary activity is in the string area. Dr. Keith Ward, chairperson of the Department of Music, responded to the announcement by saying, “We are honored to receive this generous gift from Mr. Best. This scholarship will prove invaluable in attracting and supporting outstanding students. We are deeply grateful for his commitment to our program.”

City National Bank scholarship donation

City National Bank of Pittsburg has again presented the university with a gift of $5,000 to benefit the music scholarship program. This is part of a continuing effort to support the fine arts in the region and to encourage others to help support PSU’s work in training young musicians.
Faculty Briefs...

Lori Kehle, lecturer, has resigned from her position at Pittsburg State. In recent years, Ms. Kehle served as a member of the piano and music theory areas, providing special leadership in the various lower-division theory courses.

Robert Kehle, professor, has been elected to the position of vice-president of the Kansas Unit of the International Association of Jazz Educators. He also served as director/clinician for KMEA Jazz Ensembles in Districts II and VI.

Susan Marchant, professor, served as guest conductor of the 1997 Kansas Association of Community College All-State Honor Choir. The ensemble performed on October 24 at the meeting of the Kansas Community College Trustees in Wichita.

Keith Ward, associate professor, attended the Michael Tilford Conference on Diversity and Multiculturalism at Wichita State University during October and represented PSU at the annual NASM meetings in San Diego during November. He also made a multi-media presentation, “AIDS and the Fine Arts,” at Millikin University during December.

Wei-Kang Zhou, assistant professor, performed with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra in its Masterworks Series, November 15-16. Violinist Gil Shaham was the soloist in the concert.

IN MEMORIAM
William Browning (‘47)

We received word of the death of William J. Browning, age 73, on November 9 in Darien, IL, of a stroke. A distinguished alumnus of this university, Mr. Browning’s piano studies were with Carl Friedberg (a pupil of Clara Schumann and Johannes Brahms), Will Humble, Hans Heniot (Levy), and Gui Mombaerts. He earned a master’s degree in performance from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, an institution which he would later serve as a faculty member. He also taught at the Sherwood Conservatory of Music, the Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University, and his studio in the Fine Arts Building in Chicago. During World War II, he served with Army Special Services in General Patton’s 3rd Army Division.

Mr. Browning performed extensively as recitalist, accompanist, and chamber musician. He had been the official accompanist for WGN’s Illinois Opera Guild Auditions of the Air, a vocal competition whose winners included Kathleen Battle, Sherrill Milnes, and Vinson Cole. He received high praise for his performance of American piano music, and he premiered the William Ferris Piano Sonata, a work he had commissioned at the Kennedy Center during the “Bicentennial Parade of American Music.”

Students and audience members in Pittsburg were treated to his coaching during the Annual Summer Master Class in Vocal Literature and Accompanying, and to his beautiful playing on the 1989-90 Solo and Chamber Music Series.

Mr. Thomas Schuntz, lifelong friend, has indicated that a scholarship will be established at Pittsburg State to honor the memory of Mr. Browning.

John MacKay retires; Tribute Concert planned

After 22 years of teaching piano and music theory at Pittsburg State, Prof. John MacKay has retired. The Department wishes him well as he enters this next phase of artistic activity.

A recital to honor his many years of service to the university has been scheduled for March 17 at 7:30 pm in McCray Recital Hall. Prof. Carol Hoyt of the PSU faculty is serving as coordinator of the event. Any friend or former student who is interested in performing on this program should contact Prof. Hoyt (addresses and phone are listed below).

A scrapbook of cards and letters will also be compiled and sent to Prof. MacKay at the end of the semester. For inclusion in the scrapbook, any cards, letters, pictures, etc. should be sent to Prof. Hoyt by May 1.

Carol Hoyt
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316/235-4478

Marshall Turley announces retirement

Dr. Marshall Turley, director of vocal music education at Pittsburg State since 1974, has announced his retirement at the end of this academic year. In addition to serving as the primary instructor and advisor in the area of vocal music education, Dr. Turley also served as director of the university choirs from 1975-1988, and in recent years he has overseen the department’s class piano program.

The Pittsburg community has benefited greatly from Dr. Turley’s presence as well. He has served as choral director for the Pittsburg Presbyterian Church, and he was instrumental in the founding and artistic direction of the Pittsburg Centennial Choir, an ensemble which is still in existence and which assumes the major responsibility for annual oratorio performances.

The Department extends best wishes to Dr. Turley as he enters retirement and hopes that he will continue to be an important mentor to music educators throughout the region.