Choirs Prepare for Tour, Performance at Habitat for Humanity Center

The PSU Choirs are busy preparing for a major spring tour to Georgia and South Carolina. Among the highlights of the trip will be a very special performance at the world headquarters of Habitat for Humanity International in Americus, Georgia. A central point of interest at the center is the new Global Village and Discovery Center, an exhibit that features the various types of houses that Habitat constructs in different regions of the world. On Saturday, March 20, members of the PSU choirs will be featured performers in a musical tour of the Global Village, pausing at each of the dwellings and offering representative vocal music from each of the countries. This performance presents a wonderful opportunity for the PSU singers to experience a healthy dose of music (and languages) from other corners of the world.

In preparation for this performance, the students began working with some of the music during the fall semester and then performed it during their annual “madrigal” dinner event, dedicating that evening’s musical menu to folk music from around the world. Dressed in costumes representing many cultures, the students offered music in thirteen different languages.

Other tour stops will include participation in the morning worship service at Maranatha Baptist Church, the home church of President Jimmy Carter in Plains; school and community performances in Valdosta; and a formal concert at All Saints Episcopal Church on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. The trip will also afford opportunities for sightseeing, with free time in Atlanta, Savannah, and Hilton Head.

Tour Fundraising
As is always the case in a tour year, the choirs are involved in a number of fundraising projects to help defray the cost of the trip. This year’s dinner, the centerpiece of the fundraising plan, also included a Silent Auction of donated goods and services. Another major component is the ongoing Singing Telegrams project. Students may be hired to present musical greetings for birthdays, anniversaries, Valentine’s Day, or other special occasions. For further information, or to make arrangements for the delivery of one of these greetings in or around Pittsburg, contact Susan Marchant, Director of Choral Activities: 620-235-4476 (smarchant@pittstate.edu).

PSU New Music Ensemble
An exciting new performance initiative has been unveiled for the 2003-2004 academic year. The Pittsburg State University New Music Ensemble, comprised of PSU faculty members and coordinated by Dr. John Ross, head of the theory/composition program, will make its debut in McCray Recital Hall on Monday, March 1, at 7:30 pm.

An outgrowth from last year’s Festival of New Music, this group plans to develop a very active performance schedule, including numerous visits to high schools and communities around the region, a special objective being to spark the interest of young people in the music of our time. For further information about the New Music Ensemble, contact Dr. Ross at 620-235-4477 (jross@pittstate.edu).

Concert to Honor Emeritus Professor Robert Schott
A concert in honor of Robert Schott’s 80th birthday and scholarship fund will be presented in McCray Recital Hall on Saturday, Feb. 21, 2004 at 7:30 pm. Donations to the Schott Scholarship Fund will be accepted at the door that evening.

The performance will feature PSU faculty members Russell Jones, Joanne Britz and Jessie Wright Martin, with alumni collaborative artists Steven Edmund, piano, and Keith Lemmons, clarinet.

The program will celebrate Robert Schott’s 40 years of teaching at Pittsburg State University, from 1949-1989. It will include music by Widor, Glinka, Spoehr, and Mendelssohn.

Friends, alumni, and members of the extended McCray Hall family are cordially invited to come and help celebrate, raise scholarship money, and wish Mr. Schott a happy 80th birthday! Cake and refreshments will be served following the recital.

Donations to the scholarship fund may also be sent directly to the Department of Music, using the donor card that is provided in this edition of PSU Music Notes.
Faculty Focus
Todd Hastings

Todd J. Hastings is a native of North Tonawanda, New York and is Associate Professor of Trumpet at Pittsburg State University. Before coming to Pittsburg, Todd was visiting instructor of trumpet at Texas A & M University in Kingsville, Texas.

Dr. Hastings holds degrees from SUNY Buffalo, The University of Kentucky, and The University of Texas at Austin. His studies have also taken him to the Eastman School of Music and the Aspen Music Festival, where he was a fellowship recipient for three consecutive years.

PSU’s outstanding trumpet professor is an acclaimed performer and clinician in both the classical and commercial fields. His credits include performances with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, Kansas City Symphony, American Ballet Theater, New Texas Festival Orchestra, Victoria Bach Festival Orchestra, Austin Symphony, Doc Severinson, Aretah Franklin, Henry Mancini, Joe Williams, Curtis Fuller, Bob Mintzer, Woody Herman Orchestra, Claudio Roditi, Kenny Wheeler, Charlie Haden, Bernadette Peters, Ben Vereen, and he has performed as Lead Trumpet for the Broadway Touring company’s production of Chicago.

Among his current professional engagements is his position as second trumpet with the Fort Smith Symphony in Arkansas. Other recent performances have included the world premiere of From The Mountain-Top, a new work for two trumpets and organ by composer Persis Parshal Vehar, a guest solo recital at Berry College, Georgia, and a tour of Michigan’s upper peninsula as a member of the Michigan Chamber Brass. He frequently appears as soloist and principal trumpet with the Victoria Bach Festival and New Texas Festival Orchestras and has also performed as part of the Strings in the Mountains Festival in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. He was also an award winner at the National Trumpet Competition at George Mason University.

Todd can be heard performing as principal trumpet on the Victoria Bach Festival’s newest compact disc recording, Fiery Nobility, featuring a performance of Dvorak’s Symphony No. 7 in D minor. His artistry as a jazz musician is displayed on a new compact disc release by A Sure Thing, an ensemble that he co-founded. This jazz group has performed extensively throughout the Midwest. His discography also includes solo playing on Soli Deo Gloria and Singet, (20th Anniversary Recordings of the Victoria Bach Festival, Counterpoint Records) and 1994 TMEA, with The University of Texas Wind Ensemble (Mark Records).

Todd and his wife, Stella, have recently welcomed a son, Aiden James, to their home in Pittsburg, where they enjoy the four-state community along with their Brittany, Chet Baker.

New Faculty Appointment
A. Douglas Whitten, assistant professor, joined the PSU music faculty this year as Director of Athletic Bands. He also teaches applied tuba and euphonium. Prior to his appointment at Pitt State, Mr. Whitten was the Associate Director of Athletic Bands at Boise State University, Interim Director of the Marching Band at The University of Dayton, and taught public school bands in Idaho and Nevada. He holds a Bachelor of Music in Tuba Performance from the University of Nevada, Reno, and he has pursued graduate study at Boise State University, where he is currently a doctoral candidate in the College of Education.

Prof. Whitten has performed worldwide as a member of U.S. Army Bands and as a freelance musician. Highlights of his performance career include performances with several professional symphony orchestras in the United States and in Europe, jazz ensembles, chamber groups, and with popular entertainers such as the Moody Blues and the Captain and Tennille.

The Department of Music extends a hearty welcome to this new colleague who has just completed a highly successful first semester as director of the Pride of the Plains Marching Band.

Faculty Briefs...
Russell Jones, professor, was a featured performer at the convention of the International Double Reed Society in Greensboro, North Carolina, during June. Dr. Jones performed the Sonata for Bassoon and Piano by American composer Barbara York, who joined him as pianist in the concert. Both the composition and the performance were very well received by this audience of colleagues in the profession.

Susan Marchant, university professor, was the guest clinician for a Women’s Honor Choir sponsored by the Missouri Choral Directors Association. The event, which was open to collegiate and upperclass high school singers, took place on October 18 on the campus of Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri. On December 6, she served as director of the KMEA Southeast District Honor Choir at the Bowlus Fine Arts Center in Iola. She was joined in the activity by Susan Laushman (MM‘94), who served as accompanist for the concert, and Kathryn Parke, lecturer, whose composition Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy was among the works performed that evening by the choir.

PSU Music Notes is published twice a year by the Department of Music at Pittsburg State University

Craig A. Fuchs
Chair, Department of Music

Susan Marchant
Newsletter Editor

Visit the PSU Department of Music Home Page for Up-to-Date Information concerning Concerts, Workshops, Auditions, and Faculty Biographies at http://www.pittstate.edu/music
Calendar of Events

January
13 Enrollment
14 Classes begin
20 * Solo & Chamber Music Series: Cantus Vocal Ensemble, 7:30 pm
31 SEK American Guild of Organists Young Organists Academy

February
4 Guest Recital, William Graves, saxophone, 7:30 pm
6-8 Phi Mu Alpha Conference
13 * PSU Opera Performance: *Hansel and Gretel*, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
15 * PSU Opera Performance: *Hansel and Gretel*, Memorial Auditorium, 3:00 pm
19 PSU Bands, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
21 Scholarship Audition Day
 In Honor of Robert Schott: Recital by Keith Lemmons, clarinet, and various PSU faculty, 7:30 pm
23 Faculty Recital, Steven Elisha, cello, and Reena Berger, piano, 7:30 pm
24 Junior Recital, Timothy Dodd, trombone, 7:30 pm

March
1 PSU New Music Ensemble, 7:30 pm
5 PSU Jazz Festival, all day
5 PSU Jazz Festival Concert, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
9 * Solo & Chamber Music Series: Stanislav Ioudenitch, piano, 7:30 pm
11 * Southeast Kansas Symphony Chamber Concert, 7:30 pm
12 Scholarship Audition Day
12 Faculty Recital, Jessie Wright Martin and Brian Woods, voice, 7:30 pm
14 University Choirs, 3:00 pm
15 Senior Recital, Brooka Medlin, piano, 7:30 pm
16 Senior Recital, Joel Grifflin,
18 Graduate Recital, Sarah Gustafson, cello, 7:30 pm
30 Senior Recital, Barbara Hicatt, euphonium, 7:30 pm

April
1 * Solo & Chamber Music Series: Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, 7:30 pm
2 Senior Recital, Kimberly Abels, soprano, 7:30 pm
3 Regional Solo & Small Ensemble Festival, all day
4 Suzuki Strings Concert, 3:00 pm
5 Chamber Orchestra, 7:30 pm
6 University Bands, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
8 Senior Recital, Jenny Marlin, flute, 7:30 pm
9 Graduate Recital, Wen-Hsuan Lu, soprano, 7:30 pm
12 Graduate Recital, Zia Ryu, piano, 7:30 pm
15 State Large Ensemble Festival, all day
17 Mid-America Music Festival, all day
18 * Southeast Kansas Symphony, Memorial Auditorium, 3:00 pm
20 Opera Scenes, 7:30 pm
21 Junior Recital, Emily Elkins, piano, 7:30 pm
23 Fisk Organ Recital Series: John Cook, organ, 7:30 pm
25 Waddill Chamber Music Competition Winners Concert, 3:00 pm
27 Jazz Ensemble, 7:30 pm

May
1 KMTA Musicianship Auditions, all day
2 University Choirs, First United Methodist Church, 3:00 pm
6 Four-State Band Festival, Memorial Auditorium, all day
6 Four-State Band Festival Concert, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm

*Tickets required. For further information, contact the PSU Department of Music (620/235-4466).

Please consult local news media for changes and/or updates to the above information and for additional calendar events.

Jazz Festival continues great tradition

On Friday, March 5, 2004, the Pittsburg State University Jazz Festival will celebrate a 30-year tradition of bringing great performances to Southeast Kansas. On the day of this well-established festival, the city of Pittsburg is filled with the sounds of this distinctly American music. High school and university ensembles and soloists perform both on campus and downtown, and seasoned professional clinicians share their expertise with the developing musicians.

The day culminates in an extraordinary evening concert at Pittsburg’s Memorial Auditorium. This year’s featured artists will be the Vince Martin/Miles Osland Jazz Orchestra, with special guest Bob Mintzer.

The DiMartino/Osland Jazz Orchestra, “DOJO” for short, is directed by virtuoso trumpeter Vinc DiMartino, Distinguished Professor of Trumpet at Centre College (Danville, KY), and high energy saxophonist Miles Osland, Director of Jazz Studies and Professor of Saxophone at the University of Kentucky (Lexington, KY). Their group’s recording *Off The Charts* (Sea Breeze records) has been hailed by critics as a sterling example how the big band can fit well into the contemporary jazz scene without losing any of that unique sound that continues to send tingles up and down the spines of listeners.

Diversification has always been a focus for saxophonist Bob Mintzer, who is also very well known as a composer, arranger, and educator. As a leader, he has recorded eleven big band CDs for the DMP label, with four Grammy nominations, and eight small group jazz CDs for BMG, OWL, Canyon, and DMP labels. Bob is a longtime member of the contemporary jazz group, the Yellowjackets. This band has received numerous Grammy nominations and is a regular participant at major jazz festivals throughout the world. A dedicated educator, Bob teaches saxophone at the Manhattan School of Music and continues to publish pedagogical materials and compositions that are used successfully by jazz educators around the world.

Angela Stansberry (BM ’96), right, sings the role of Clorinda in the Springfield Regional Opera production of Cinderella on October 3-4. She is joined Mark Freiman (Don Magnifico) and Katherine Calcamuggio (Tisbe).
ALUMNI UPDATE FORM

PSU Department of Music Faculty

Craig Fuchs, Associate Professor
  Chair of the Department
  Director of Bands

Reena Berger, Assistant Professor
  Piano

Tracy Blizman
  Horn

Joanne Britz, Assistant Professor
  Clarinet and Saxophone

Steven Elisha, Lecturer
  Cello and Double Bass

James Clanton, Lecturer
  Percussion

Selim Giray, Assistant Professor
  Violin and Viola

James Hall, Lecturer
  Flute

Stella Hastings, Assistant Professor
  Director, Southeast Kansas Symphony
  Voice, Theory

Todd Hastings, Associate Professor
  Trumpet, Jazz, Music Appreciation

Carol Hoyt, Lecturer
  Piano, Piano Pedagogy

David Hurley, Associate Professor
  Music History, Oboe, Music Appreciation

Russell Jones, Professor
  Director of Graduate Studies
  Music Education, Woodwinds

Lori Kehle, Lecturer
  Piano

Robert Kehle, University Professor
  Director of Jazz Studies
  Trombone and Music Appreciation

Susan Marchant, University Professor
  Director of Choral Activities
  Organ, Harpsichord

Jessie Wright Martin, Assistant Professor
  Voice, Vocal Pedagogy and Literature

Joyce Medford, Lecturer
  Elementary Music Education

Matthew Montague, Assistant Professor
  Music Education Coordinator
  Choral Education, Music Appreciation

Kathryn Parke, Lecturer
  Voice

John Ross, Assistant Professor
  Theory and Composition

A. Douglas Whitten, Assistant Professor
  Director of Athletic Bands
  Tuba and Euphonium

Brian Woods, Instructor
  Voice and Opera
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!

**Nickola Bacic**, violist and former PSU student from the former Yugoslavia, is now a full member of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra.

**Marcia Ball** (MM ’82) sends word that she has retired after 29 years of public school teaching, 27 of which were with the Joplin R-8 system, while two were in Independence, Missouri.

**Judy Chu** (MM ’96) visited Pittsburg during the summer and reported that she is teaching piano in a number of public schools in Taiwan.

**Louise (Glen) Delaney** (BGS ‘98) and her husband Edward joyfully announce the birth of their first child, Ezra Joel, on August 17 in California.

**Barbara (Dunkin) Gregory** (BME ’92) has remarried. She and her new husband, Keith, were married in May, 2003, and now reside in Centerton, Arkansas. Barbara is a legal assistant for Wal-Mart Legal/Real Estate in Bentonville, and her husband works in Wal-Mart ISD. Barbara hopes to pursue artistic endeavors in local theatrical productions and in the Wal-Mart Choir.

**Jean Farris Fuller** (BME ’69) recently returned from performing concerts at First Presbyterian Church in Portland, Oregon, and St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, New York City. She is a breast cancer survivor and is organist at St. David’s Episcopal Church in Austin, Texas.

**Brian Giacomo** (BME ’93) and his wife had a very busy 2003 Mother’s Day weekend. On May 10, Brian graduated with a Master of Education in School Administration degree from NSU, and on May 11, they had their first baby, Lauren Danielle. Brian continues as director of bands at Hilldale Public Schools, but is seeking an administrative position in the vicinity of Muskogee, Oklahoma.

**Gina Hale** (BME ’78, MM ’84) writes that she has completed 25 years in the field of music education. She currently holds a position at a middle school in Duval County, Florida, where she teaches music appreciation. It is the only position of this type in the county at the secondary level, and her hope is to expand this instruction throughout the school district. Gina and her husband, Pat, live in the Fleming Island area and have recently celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary.

**Jessica Hanzlick** (BGS 2003) shares the wonderful news of the birth of her son, Oliver Isaac, on September 29 in Wichita.

**Brian** and **Regan Hargrave** proudly announce the latest addition to their family: Zachary Andrew, born in Pittsburg on November 27. Zach joins their other two children, Geoffrey and Emma.

**Liz Bain Huddleston** (BSED ’57) recently accepted the position of pianist for El Buen Pastor United Methodist Church in Santa Paula, California, after working for two years as adjunct librarian at Pepperdine University. Now living in Ventura, Liz is happy to be playing piano again and learning some Spanish in the process.

**John Jarboe** (BME ’65, MM ’70) is in his eighth year as Elementary Principal of the Arkansas School for the Blind in Little Rock. Although no longer playing in the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, he continues to perform with other members of the family in the Jarboe String Quartet. John is the conductor of the Preparatory Orchestra of the Arkansas Youth Orchestra program, and he also serves as Minister of Music at Levy United Methodist Church in North Little Rock. As part of his Christian musical ministry, he has created The Praising Strings and Songs of Jarboe, a program that features songs, violin solos, hymn histories, and anecdotes of his experience playing Jesus Christ in the first American production of Jesus Christ Superstar, which ran for six months in suburban Washington, DC in the early 1970’s.

**Rob Jenkins** (BM ’93, MM ’98) is working in Kansas City as a liaison for TNT Logistics International, a company that provides third-party transportation and in-line inventory sequencing for several commodities used in the production of the Ford F-150 and Escape and the Mazda Tribute. These three vehicles are produced at Ford’s Kansas City Assembly Plant. Rob also serves as organist for two congregations in North Kansas City: Hillside Christian Church and St. Patrick’s Catholic Church.

**Deborah Pierce** (BME ’79, MM ’81) continues to work as a music librarian at the University of Washington. She completed her certification as a Master Neuro-Linguistic Programming Practitioner in 2001. She continues her research in the areas of music and healing and healing work with musicians. Among the fruits of this research have been a course at the University of Washington School of Music titled “Mind and Body Health for Musicians” and an article in the Open Ear Journal titled “Music’s role in brain injury recovery: a musician’s journey.”