David Osborne (MM ’83) Has Return Engagements
At White House and Plains
PSU Alum has performed for five U.S. Presidents

David Osborne has found a way to navigate the waters successfully inside the Beltway, regardless of which political party has been in the White House. He’s done it by playing the piano so beautifully. In the years since his first appearance there during the Carter administration, he has received numerous invitations to perform for the nation’s leaders and their guests.

David has continued to enjoy a close relationship with the Carters, for whom he has now performed for nearly two decades. Most recently, he returned to Plains, Georgia, for a special concert in honor of President Carter’s 80th birthday. The concert, which took place at Maranatha Baptist Church, attracted a capacity audience. Reflecting on this performance, he said, “It is always an honor to perform for the Carters and the residents of Plains, Georgia. I especially enjoyed this performance as it marked the eightieth birthday of a man I deeply respect and admire. I was thrilled to be part of a special occasion.”

David was also instrumental in making arrangements for the PSU Choirs to perform at the Carters’ home church, Maranatha Baptist, as part of their Spring 2004 Tour.

Invitations to perform at the Bush White House have marked the last two holiday seasons. He will return to Washington in January for performances at several inaugural events.

While President Carter has stated on numerous occasions that he believes David to be among the greatest pianists in the nation, President Bush put his own personal stamp on the endorsement. Having relayed President Carter’s remarks to the audience, he said that he would like to change the quote. “My quote,” he said, “is: This boy can play!”

While David’s degree from Pittsburg State University is in organ performance, he rarely has time these days to play that instrument. His regular engagement is a piano performance titled The Great American Songbook at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. His recordings have sold more than three million copies worldwide.
Faculty Focus
David Hurley

David Hurley knew from an early age that music was his calling. What he didn’t realize until a few years later was that, while he would always hold a special place in his heart for playing his chosen instrument, the oboe, he had become even more passionate about the academic side of the discipline.

He spent his boyhood years in the South, with roots in both Georgia and Alabama. Life on a lake in Galesville, Alabama, afforded him the opportunity to learn how to water ski...something he still enjoys, but rarely does in Kansas! This geographical location also allowed him to travel to Atlanta for oboe lessons with Elaine Douvas, who was the principal oboist of that city’s Symphony before moving to the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. It was she who encouraged David to attend Interlochen during his high school years.

The Great Lakes region would be home to David Hurley for the next years as he completed degrees in music history at the University of Michigan and the University of Chicago. It was here that his curiosity about the music of Handel really took root, and a focus on Handel’s compositional process soon occupied center stage among his research interests. His principal mentor in this endeavor was Ellen Harris, who would later help guide his work toward publication. Following completion of his PhD, Dr. Hurley remained in Chicago and taught at Roosevelt University. During this time, he served as editor of the entries on singers for the International Dictionary of Opera published by St. James Press.

In 1996, he was invited to join the faculty of Pittsburg State University, where his duties would include the teaching of music history and applied oboe, as well as the coordination of the annual Timmons Chapel Christmas Concerts. When asked about the things that he has enjoyed about living and working here, he immediately said that he appreciates the general atmosphere of the school and things such as the politeness of the students. While he hasn’t had many opportunities to work intensively with PSU students in his area of specialization, his external scholarly contributions to the field of Handel research has moved ahead quite nicely. At the suggestion of Ellen Harris, he approached Oxford University Press about the idea of a book on Handel’s compositional process, and this ultimately led to Oxford’s 2001 publication of his book, Handel’s Muse: Patterns of Creation in His Oratorios and Musical Dramas, 1743-1751. Among his other projects, still in progress, is the major undertaking of editing Handel’s Hercules for a complete works edition. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the American Handel Society, an organization of which he was president for four years.

In Memoriam
Laurence W. Siegle

The Department notes with sadness the passing of Dr. Laurence W. Siegle, 90, in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Siegle earned BS and MS degrees from Juilliard and a doctorate from Indiana University. During his tenure at Pittsburg State, he taught voice and music history, and he directed the opera program in a number of productions that were long remembered for their excellence. He also served as Chair of the Department of Music before retiring in 1976. Retirement years for Larry and Lenore, his wife of 61 years, were spent in Brownsville, Texas, where for 17 years he served as Resident Director of the Camille Lightner Playhouse.

Choirs, Orchestra to Perform Brahms Requiem

This year’s spring collaboration between local choirs and the Southeast Kansas Symphony will lead to a performance of the Requiem of Johannes Brahms. The performance, under the direction of Susan Marchant, will take place at 3 pm on Sunday, May 1, in the sanctuary of First United Methodist Church.

Guest soloists for the concert will be two former PSU faculty members, soprano Loraine Sims and baritone Paul Haybrechts. The choir will be comprised of members of the PSU choral program and other singers from the area. For information on the rehearsal schedule and opportunities to sing in the Brahms choir, contact Susan Marchant by telephone or e-mail at 620-235-4476 or smarchan@pittstate.edu

Kathryn Parke departs from PSU Music Faculty

Kathryn Parke, lecturer, has left her adjunct position in the Department of Music in order to pursue other professional opportunities. Ms. Parke has been affiliated with the Department since 1991, serving at various times as instructor of voice, diction, Introduction to Music Literature, and, in an interim full-time position from 2000-02, as director of the PSU opera program. She also administered the Music Preparatory Division and Suzuki String Program for a number of years, and she has served as costume for most of the department’s staged productions over the past two decades. If time allows, she hopes to continue as artistic director of the Madrigal Dinner Series, an annual event sponsored by the PSU Choirs that has become a highlight of the fall semester musical offerings on campus.

Ms. Parke has made an enormous contribution to the life of the Department during her tenure at PSU, and we wish her well as she embarks on the next stage of her career.

Festival of New Music

The 2005 Festival of New Music is set for February 6-10. This year’s festival will feature soprano Elizabeth Farnum and other guest artists, along with performers from the university community. Composer Hubert Bird (BM/BME ’62, MS ’66) will be among those composers whose works are featured in the five-day festival.

In addition to nightly concerts, the festival will offer masterclasses, discussions, and sessions with PSU theory classes. Dr. John Ross is the director of the Festival of New Music, and questions may be directed to him at: 620-235-4477 or jross@pittstate.edu

Wind Ensemble and Choir to Present Bird Premiere

Members of the PSU Wind Ensemble and Choirs will join forces in February to present the world premiere of a new work by Hubert Bird (BM/BME ’62, MS ’66). Commissioned by alumni of the PSU Department of Music, with assistance from the university, the work is a setting of the poem Epistle to be Left in the Earth by Archibald MacLeish. It is scored for wind ensemble, tenor solo, and SATB chorus. William Vance (BM ’69) will sing the tenor solo in this performance under the direction of Dr. Craig Fuchs.

The concert will take place at 7:30 pm on Thursday, February 17 in Pittsburg’s Memorial Auditorium.
PSU Department of Music Faculty

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

Reena Berger, Assistant Professor
  *Piano

Tracy Blizman, Lecturer
  *Horn

Joanne Britz, Assistant Professor
  *Clarinet and Saxophone

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

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, Associate Professor
  *Music Education Coordinator
  *Choral Education, Music Appreciation

John Ross, Assistant Professor
  *Theory and Composition

Janis Saket, Lecturer
  *Voice and Diction

James Swain, Lecturer
  *Cello and Bass

A. Douglas Whitten, Assistant Professor
  *Director of Athletic Bands
  *Tuba and Euphonium
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Degree/Year
**Calendar of Events**

**January**
- 12 Enrollment
- 13 Classes begin
- 21 *Solo & Chamber Music Series: Trombones de Costa Rica*

**February**
- 5 Honors Orchestra, all day
- 5 Honors Orchestra Concert, 7:30 pm
- 17 University Bands, with the University Choir, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
- 18 *Fisk Organ Recital Series: David Hurd, organ, 7:30 pm*

**Scholarship Audition Day**
- 19 *Solo & Chamber Music Series: Maxim Philippov, piano, 7:30 pm*

**March**
- 4 Annual Jazz Festival, all day
- 4 *Jazz Festival Concert, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm*
- 6 Festival of New Music, 7:30 pm
- 7 Festival of New Music, 7:30 pm
- 8 Festival of New Music, 7:30 pm
- 9 Festival of New Music, 10:00 pm
- 10 Festival of New Music, 7:30 pm

**Scholarship Audition Day**
- 13 University Choirs, 3:00 pm
- 16 Guest Recital, Karen Clarke, violin, 7:30 pm
- 31 Graduate Recital, Catalin Lari, viola, 7:30 pm

**April**
- 1 *Solo & Chamber Music Series: Kansas City Chorale, 7:30 pm
- 4 Chamber Orchestra, 7:30 pm
- 7 University Bands, Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 pm
- 9 Regional Solo & Ensemble Festival, all day
- 10 Suzuki Strings Concert, 3:00 pm
- 14 State Large Ensemble Festival, all day
- 21 Waddill Chamber Music Competition, 7:30 pm
- 23 Mid-America Music Festival, all day
- 24 Senior Recital, Markel Porter, mezzo-soprano, 7:00 pm
- 26 Jazz Concert, 7:30 pm

**May**
- 1 Choir & Orchestra, Brahms Requiem, First United Methodist Church, 3:00 pm
- 6 Four-State Band Festival, all day
- 6 Four-State Band Concert, Memorial Auditorium, 7:00 pm
- 13, 14 Commencement

*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.

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**PSU Pianists Shine in Competition**

Congratulations are extended to three PSU piano majors who distinguished themselves in the 2004 KMTA Collegiate State Artist Piano Competition. Kristin Humbard took second place in the Freshman/Sophomore Division, while Scott Sternberger did likewise in the Junior/Senior Division. Zia Ryu placed third in the Graduate Division. All of these pianists are students of Dr. Reena Berger.

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**Faculty Briefs...**

**Reena Berger**, assistant professor, has been accepted into the Touring Artists Roster of the Kansas Arts Commission. Dr. Berger has taught piano at PSU since 2000.

**Joanne Britz**, assistant professor, was awarded the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in clarinet performance from the University of Texas at Austin on May 22. Dr. Britz has taught clarinet at PSU since 2001.

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**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!

**Valerie (O’Neal) Adams** (BSE ’03) married **Cory Adams** (BSET ’03) in June, 2003. The couple moved to Kansas City, and Valerie is currently teaching 2nd grade at Midland Trail Elementary in the Turner school district.

**Cathy Baird** (BA ’75), writes that she began working at Mendocino Software in March, 2004, where she continues her technical writing career. She also sings with the Threshold Choir, an ensemble that sings at bedsides (http://www.thresholdchior.org).

**Michael Brandel** (BM, BME ’95) still resides in Lawrence and is serving as the K-12 vocal music and secondary theatre instructor for the McLouth USD 342 schools. His wife, Jayne, is working at the University of Kansas and as a private speech therapist, while earning a PhD in that specialty. Michael and Jayne are enjoying life with their three children, Tabitha (4), Jessica (2), and Donald (1).

**Harlan (MM ’96) and Crystal Bryan** proudly announce the birth of their third child, Jillian Grace, on December 6. The Bryan clan resides in Junction City, Kansas, where Harlan works for a computer company in the areas of tech support and customer service. Crystal works in the Manhattan High School as a para in the Special Ed Resource room.

**John (MM ’01) and Liz (Homesley) Cook** (BM ’01) are the proud parents of a baby boy, Paul Baryton. Paul came into the world on August 28. John and Liz are living in Bolivar, Missouri.

**Bryan and Jennifer Ganer** announce with joy the birth of their child, Sean Patrick, on December 26 in Pittsburg.

**Violet Magee** (BSED ’72) was honored earlier this year when she was named as the recipient of the Jefferson Award in Education and Literacy. The award was presented to her by the Topeka Capitol-Journal, KSNT Channel 27, St. Francis Hospital, AM 580 WIBW, and 94.5 Country. Her career of more than 40 years has included classroom teaching in a number of schools throughout southeast Kansas, including a ten-year affiliation with St. Mary’s Catholic School in Fort Scott. She has also taught innumerable private students and has served for many years as organist of St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Fort Scott.

**Brooka Medlin** (BME ’04) has received a Music in Education internship with the Yamaha Corporation for the spring of 2005. The internship will take her to Buena Park, California.
Josh Simpson (BM '03) sends word from Texas that he will be touring in Australia this May with some other singers from Fort Worth.

Deborah Stark (MM '89) writes that she graduated last May from Ball State University, earning a doctorate in vocal performance with a secondary emphasis in musicology and music history. Her dissertation was titled, "A Comparison of Multiple Intelligence Profiles of College Singers and Non-singers with Implications for Teachers of Singing..." Deborah is currently teaching voice as a member of the faculty at Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, Georgia.

Gary Tebbets (MM '98) is now the choral and piano instructor at Allen County Community College in Iola, Kansas.

Sherwood "Woody" Watson (BA '84, MM '86) is living in Bonner Springs, Kansas. He is teaching private lessons in his own studio, and he tunes and repairs pianos and other instruments. Woody also drives a school bus for the Bonner school district. In addition to all of these activities, he finds time to study trumpet with Jim Spencer, a busy on-call musician in the Kansas City area.

Matt Whittier (BM '97) has recently married Julie LoGrasso. The couple is residing in Tennessee, where Matt is working for Naxos Records.

Steve Wilkerson (MM '88) continues in his position as jazz lecturer for Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California, where he has been a full-time tenured professor for the past 16 years. He also continues as an artist/clinician for the Selmer Corporation. Steve recently started his own company, the Wilkerson Ultimate Saxophone Mouthpiece Company. The products were debuted at the 2004 NAMM Show and have been very successful, selling across the nation. Please visit his website at www.wilkersonultimate.com. Steve also continues to be in demand for jazz performances and performs with top acts such as Barry Manilow and Barbra Streisand. He will be recording a new alto CD this fall.

Andrea Baker Wilkerson (MM '91) continues in her role as Director of the Studio Jazz Ensemble at Pasadena City College. She also heads the Studio Jazz Voice faculty and teaches music appreciation. Andrea remains an active performer and clinician. She has recently taken on a new interest – writing screenplays. Chance Wilkerson, the son of Steve and Andrea, is now a freshman film major at Pasadena City College. He plans on being an actor/director and has just signed with a top talent agency in Hollywood.

Obituaries

Yoshiko Daniel (BS '74, MS '76), a long-time friend of the Department of Music and an active participant in the musical life of the Pittsburg community, died on December 7 in Pittsburg. At her memorial service, held in McCray Recital Hall on December 18, Yoshiko was remembered as a member of the Treble Clef Club and as founder of the Bells of the Balkans. This ensemble, on whose behalf she had worked with her special fervor, presented several musical selections at the service.

Word has reached us of the death of Clyde Fink (BME '62) on October 30 in Joplin, Missouri. His long and diverse career in music involved public school teaching, instrument repair, and work as a music retailer in Kansas, Colorado, and Oklahoma. In 1998, he retired to Grove, Oklahoma, where he continued to repair instruments for the school system and was active in the music program of First Christian Church, both as choir director and as a member of a string quartet.

Giselle (Eastman) Fleming (BSED '99) died November 5 in Kansas City, Kansas, of complications subsequent to surgery for a brain tumor. At the time of her death, Giselle was living in Eudora, Kansas, teaching Special Education at West Elementary School and serving as Primary chorister in the Wakarusa Valley Ward of the LDS Church. Her husband, Hyriam (BSE '99), is a student in the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy. Hyriam and Giselle met at the result of their participation in the music program at PSU, and music remained a very important part of their life. In the five years of their marriage, they produced two beautiful daughters, Livia and McKenna.

Mary Herrmann ('68), a musician who shared her gifts with students, parishioners, and, most recently, fellow residents of Sunset Manor in Frontenac, died on December 14. The central part of her career involved public school teaching, both in Rantoul and in Linn County, Kansas. During these years, she also served as pianist for the Mount City Methodist Church. In recent months, as a resident of Sunset Manor, she played piano on many occasions, and this talent contributed to her having been chosen as Little Balkans Days Queen in September, 2004.

Marie Reynolds (BM '41), former resident of Parsons and Pittsburg, died on December 3 at the Saint Francis Regional Medical Center in Wichita. A graduate of Caney High School, her musical education took her to both the Horner Conservatory and the Juilliard School of Music for vocal study. Following graduation from Kansas State Teachers College, Pittsburg, she taught at schools in a number of Kansas communities. She retired from teaching in 1975, and she was elected to the Kansas Teachers Hall of Fame in 1978. Among Marie's many activities was her extensive involvement in the National Federation of Music Clubs. The legacy of two beloved Parsons musicians was remembered at Marie's funeral mass, as it included recordings that she had made in the 1970's with organist Mary Jarboe.