A Year of Transition for McCray Hall

As we head into the 1994-95 academic year, the pace quickens in the process to renovate McCray Recital Hall. At the center of this project is the new pipe organ currently under construction as Opus 106 of the firm of C.B. Fisk in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Other improvements to the hall will include a new heating and cooling system, lighting, and acoustical enhancement. Two other adjustments—preparation for the construction of a recording booth and increased accessibility for wheelchairs—will complete the project.

In Pittsburg during the month of May, the two Kawai concert pianos and their storage cabinets were removed from the north side of the stage. The third week of July witnessed a larger project: the removal of the Reuter pipe organ from its central position on the stage. Under the direction of Jerry Dawson, representing Quimby Pipe Organs of Warrendale, Missouri, a crew of music faculty, students, other volunteers, and various PSU staff members worked steadily for four days to disassemble the instrument, label its various parts, and pack it away for temporary storage. The Reuter organ is available for purchase (as of this writing), and inquiries are welcome.

Once the bidding process has been completed, construction will be in full swing in and around McCray Hall. The university's large ensembles, for whom the recital hall also serves as rehearsal space, will meet this year in the auditorium in Kelce Hall. Concerts for the entire academic year will move to various venues, both on and off campus: Kelce Auditorium, Memorial Auditorium, the Overman Student Center, and a number of area churches. Because of this, concertgoers are urged to check their information carefully before heading out to performances!

Meanwhile, on the Atlantic coast, Fisk Opus 106 is moving quickly toward completion. Work in the shop has focused on several church instruments as well as the Pittsburg organ, their next important instrument to reside at an academic institution.

The photographs on this page provide glimpses of the activity in Pittsburg and Gloucester that will bring this artistic accomplishment to fruition within the next year.
In Memoriam: Markwood M. Holmes

Markwood Holmes, a former faculty member of the Department of Music at Pittsburg State University, died in Pittsburg on January 24, 1994, at the age of 94. He had been a resident at the Sunset Manor Nursing Center in Frontenac.

When Prof. Holmes joined this faculty in 1947, he brought with him a fabulous musical background and a wealth of educational and professional experience. He held degrees from the Kansas City Conservatory of Music and the University of Tulsa. His training as a violinist had been further enhanced through private study in the invigorating musical environment of Paris in the 1920s. His prior experience as an educator and performer was likewise impressive: international tours as a member of the Vandelle String Quartet, national touring as a member of the Harding String Quartet, experience as principal second violinist of the Kansas City Philharmonic, and years of violin teaching in the Kansas City Conservatory, the Pro Art School of Kansas City, and the public schools of Fort Scott, KS. In 1944, the first of his pedagogical materials had been published by the firm of Carl Fischer.

Prof. Holmes was widely recognized for his gifts as a composer, and during his tenure of 22 years at this institution, the composition and presentation of new music was at the very core of the department's activities. A published composer himself, he had many diverse works to his credit, from intimate chamber pieces to large-scale stage works.

Following his retirement from here in 1969, Prof. Holmes taught violin and music theory for seven additional years at Fort Scott Community College.

His accomplishments across the wide range of the musical world—as composer, violinist, educator, theorist—caught the attention of a number of professional societies, and he was honored with an impressive array of citations, awards, and other honors at the end of his career.

A memorial service for Prof. Holmes was held on January 27 at the Brenner Chapel in Pittsburg, with the Rev. Robert Bardeen of the Pittsburg Presbyterian Church officiating. Dudley Cornish, emeritus professor of history, delivered the eulogy, and a string quartet of Mozart was offered by the PSU Resident Quartet. Prof. Holmes is survived by his wife, Leone, and two sisters who also reside in Pittsburg.

1994-95 Solo & Chamber Music Series

Tuesdays at 8 pm
First United Methodist Church

September 13 Theresa Santiago, soprano
October 4 Lowell Adams, cello
October 25 Eugene Istromin, piano
November 15 Cassatt String Quartet
January 24 Harvey Pittell Sax Quartet
February 28 Rhythm & Brass
March 28 Eric Street, piano
April 18 Vikarbo Chamber Ensemble

Faculty Briefs...

Karen Dannessa (woodwinds) has been promoted to the rank of associate professor. Recent professional activities include her completion of the doctoral degree at Florida State University and performance in a masterclass with Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr at the annual University of Oklahoma Clarinet Symposium. Her dissertation, "An annotated bibliography of trios for clarinet, one stringed instrument and piano, composed between 1978 and 1990 by composers active in the United States," should offer valuable assistance to musicians interested in exploring this corner of instrumental chamber literature.

Robert Kehle (low brass, director of jazz studies) attended the International Trombone Workshop in June, after which he took up residence for three weeks in Fayetteville, Arkansas, where he again served as principal trombonist for the annual Music Festival of Arkansas. Performances this year included four chamber concerts and four orchestral concerts, one of which featured a concerto by Peter Schickele for brass quintet and orchestra. Other summertime activities included preparation for a new area of teaching this fall, a class that has been specially designed to help "at-risk" students as they embark on their college careers. Prof. Kehle is one of twelve PSU faculty who have been chosen to participate in this project.

Mary Katherine Kelton (voice) spent a busy summer making music with several professional choral ensembles. In May, she participated in the Second New Texas Festival in Austin. Immediately following that event, she sang with the fourteen-member Texas Early Music Project at the annual Round Top International Music Festival. June took her to the Victoria (Texas) Bach Festival, after which she returned to Santa Fe, New Mexico, for her fifth summer season with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale. For this season of ten concerts, she served as soloist, alto section leader, and diction coach. She also performed with a vocal jazz quartet, The Desert Voices, drawn from the Chorale. To round out the summer, she served as a member of the faculty of the Berkshire Choral Festival during its preparation and performance of the Verdi Requiem in Santa Fe. She taught classes in vocal production and song literature, gave two recitals, and served as alto section leader for the 250-voice choir.

Susan Marchant (organ, director of choral activities) has been promoted to the rank of full professor. She has also been granted a sabbatical leave for the 1994 fall semester, during which time she will resume work on several publication projects and present a number of solo and chamber recitals off campus.

Carolyn Cook, wife of the late Prof. Richard Cook and, in recent years, music faculty member with the Girard, KS public schools, has moved to Shawnee, KS. She has accepted a teaching position in the metropolitan Kansas City area.

Paul Mazzacano, a former director of bands at Pittsburg State, now heads Music Enterprises in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. He is a composer/arranger, and he conducts clinics and workshops and hosts two television programs.
## Calendar of Events

### August
- **18** Enrollment
- **19** Enrollment
- **22** Classes begin
- **30** Faculty Recital, Kathryn Parke, soprano, First United Methodist Church, 8 pm

### September
- **13** *Solo & Chamber Music Series:*
  Theresa Santiago, soprano,
  First United Methodist Church, 8 pm
- **20** Faculty Recital, Katherine Kelton, soprano,
  First United Methodist Church, 8 pm

### October
- **2** *Southeast Kansas Symphony,
  Memorial Auditorium, 3 pm
- **4** *Solo & Chamber Music Series:*
  Lowell Adams, cello,
  First United Methodist Church, 8 pm
- **7** Jazz Ensemble, University Club,
  Overman Student Center, 8 pm
- **11** Faculty Recital, Karen Dannessa, clarinet
  and Katherine Kelton, soprano,
  First United Methodist Church, 8 pm
- **15** KMTA Fall Auditions, all day
- **25** *Solo and Chamber Music Series:*
  Eugene Istomin, piano,
  First United Methodist Church, 8 pm

### November
- **1** Faculty Recital, Paul Huybrechts, baritone,
  First United Methodist Church, 8 pm
- **8** Collegium Musicum, 8 pm
- **13** *Southeast Kansas Symphony,
  Memorial Auditorium, 3 pm
- **15** *Solo and Chamber Music Series:*
  Cassatt String Quartet,
  First United Methodist Church, 8 pm
- **20** University Choirs
  First United Methodist Church, 3 pm

### December
- **6** University Band and Jazz Ensemble,
  Memorial Auditorium, 8 pm
- **7** Timmons Chapel Christmas Program,
  Timmons Chapel, 8 pm
- **9** Timmons Chapel Christmas Program,
  Timmons Chapel, 8 pm

### January
- **9** Enrollment
- **10** Enrollment
- **11** Classes begin
- **21** *Guest Concert, Early Music Consort,
  Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 8 pm
- **24** *Solo and Chamber Music Series:*
  Harvey Pittel Saxophone Quartet,
  First United Methodist Church, 8 pm

*Tickets required. For further information, contact the PSU Department of Music (316/235-4466).*

**Important note:** Due to the renovation work being done in McCray Recital Hall during the ’94-’95 academic year, a number of different venues in Pittsbug are being utilized for concerts. Please consult local news media for changes and/or updates to the above information and for additional calendar events.

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## PSU Music Notes

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

### PSU Faculty
- **Gene Vollen,**
  Chairman, Department of Music
- **Susan Marchant,**
  Newsletter Editor

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## Student News...

**Angela Shoup** (voice) was accepted for participation this summer in the annual Brevard Music Festival in North Carolina.

**Joann Warford** (voice) received a scholarship to sing with the summer opera workshop at Inspiration Point in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

**Matt Whittier** (trombone) was accepted as a performing member of the Music Festival of Arkansas, where he took part in the composers’ workshop with John Corigliano.

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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 new of your recent activities with other members of the PSU Alumni network. Thanks!

**Mark Appier** (BME ‘90) has returned to the midwest, having accepted a position with the Wheatland High School in Grainfield, KS. Mark will be teaching science, grades 7-12, and may also direct the pep band.

**Melvin Baum** (BME ’85) has resigned his position as instrumental music director for the Girard, KS public schools. Mel will return to PSU for graduate study this fall.

**James Christian** (MM ’77) is a member of the United States Air Force Band of the Rockies, one of the two premiere Air Force bands that tour extensively. Stationed in Colorado Springs at the Academy, James was recently promoted to the rank of master sergeant and was featured in a recording as a singer and violinist. He and his wife, Terri, have two children.

**Glen Clugston** (BM ’52) recently finished a tour of Germany, Holland, and Austria as conductor of a production of My Fair Lady. In addition to other shows such as Peter Pan, Fiddler on the Roof, and Annie, Glen has also conducted La Bohème, La Traviata, and Madame Butterfly for the Philadelphia Lyric Opera. Co-founder of the American Opera Repertory Company, Glen resides in New York City.

**Chris Coots** (BME ’68, MS ’69) has resigned his position as band director of Pittsburg High School and will succeed Melvin Baum in an appointment to the faculty of the Girard schools.

**Judy Cope** (BM ’82) presented a solo recital on May 1 as part of the Benefit Recital Series for the Ascension Music Chorus and Orchestra, New York City. She was accompanied by pianist Gary Green (BME ’74).

**Elizabeth Council** completed her MM degree at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music in June, 1993, and is currently teaching strings and music theory in the CCM Preparatory Department.

**David Evitts** (BME ’65) maintains a very busy career as a baritone these days. Highlights of this past season include performances as “Schaunard” in La Bohème in Nice, France; as “Sharpless” in a Cleveland Opera performance of Madame Butterfly; as soloist in the Vaughan Williams Sea Symphony in Milwaukee; and in a production of Falstaff with the St. Louis Opera. In the fall
of 1994, he will sing nine performances at the Metropolitan Opera as the sacristan in Puccini’s Tosca.

Donald Good (BME ‘63) writes that, following six weeks at the British Caledonian Flight Training Center in London, he is now checked out as a captain on the Airbus A-320 with United Airlines in Chicago. He also plays horn, trumpet, and trombone with the North Shore Brass Ensemble and has recently added a grand piano to the contents of his new home near O’Hare Airport.

Gail Hamilton (MM ’79) received her MA degree in counseling/psychology from the Naropa Institute of Boulder in December, 1993. She is establishing a practice in counseling, specializing in work with individuals and families with disabilities. Gail continues to teach piano, voice, theory, and braille music in her home studio.

Vicki (Glades) Hoffman (BME ’74) will be teaching in the Galena, KS public schools, grades 3-12, beginning this fall.

Lewis Hoyt (BME ’70), after several years away from public school music teaching, returns to that activity this fall, when he succeeds Judy Jones as director of the string/orchestral program in the Independence, KS public schools.

Dawn Hurt (BME ’93) married Dave Weirich (BBA ’91) in a ceremony that took place in Lyndon, KS on July 2.

Judy Jones (BME ’72, MM ’79) joins the music faculty of the Parsons public schools this fall, where she will head up string/orchestral studies. She leaves a similar position in Independence, KS.

Larry Jones (BME ’73), wife Leah (Eastburn) Jones (BME ’73) and their son, Matt, moved to Wichita in August, 1993, where Larry began a position of minister of music at the Immanuel Baptist Church. This position includes the supervision of the music program of the main church as well as four satellite locations, a music ministry that involves more than 250 participants. Leah is involved with the choir, various vocal ensembles, and serves as director of one of the children’s choirs. The 1993 Christmas production featured the church’s 90-voice choir, supported by a chamber orchestra drawn from the Wichita Symphony.

Tsai-Huan Kou (MM ’94) has been accepted as a pianist into the doctoral program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music.

Robbie Lewis (BME ’94) will begin teaching in the public schools of Miami, OK, beginning this fall.

Tung-Lung Lin (MM ’94) has been accepted for further graduate study in composition at the University of North Texas, beginning this fall.

Sam Lyle (MM ’82) will succeed Ronda Vickers as band director for the Parsons, KS public schools.

Christine Meyer (BME ’94) begins a teaching position this fall with the Oswego, KS public schools.

Terry O’Brien writes that his recent activities have included some exciting operatic opportunities. During the last year, he sang the following roles: “Camille” in The Merry Widow with New Jersey Pro Musica; “Don Jose” in Carmen with the Delaware Valley Opera; and “Alfredo” in La Traviata with Opera Delaware.

Judith Pyle (BM ’93) will return to Florida and resume a full-time teaching position there. She leaves several part-time appointments in the four-state region, including one in the Department of Music at Cotter College in Nevada, MO, and another with the PSU Suzuki String Program (see related article).

Rob Rowland (BSET ’90) sends word of the events in his life over the past several years: he married Michelle Sutton of Crossville, TN in June, 1992. They now have two sons, Ryan and Rusty. Rob has participated in the Knoxville Concert Band over the past three years, during which time he has worked as a plastics engineer for Techner PM in Knoxville. He is also racing motorcycles as a hobby, under the WERA sanctioning body.

Kim Scharff (MM ’77) has sent word of the birth of a son, David Paul.

Becky (Swaney) Smith (BME ’87) will move to an elementary music position in the Coffeyville public schools, effective this fall.

Ronda Vickers (BME ’86, MM ’87) assumes the position of band director for the Pittsburg High School, effective this fall. She leaves a similar position in Parsons, KS.

David Wallace (BME ’84) presented a clinic entitled “Middle School Musical Arts: General Music for the 21st Century” at the KMEA In-Service Workshop in Wichita last February. After several years as director of vocal music for the high school in Baxter Springs, KS, David will begin a new assignment this fall related to the school’s computer resources.

Obituary

Word reached us this spring of the death, in Dec., 1992, of Talitha Wallace (BSEd ’39).