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Greetings from the University of Northern Iowa! New 21st century initiatives and innovative educational opportunities continue to be offered to students as they successfully pursue their degree programs in the School of Music. Our new outreach efforts offer students increased experience through teaching or internships. At the same time, the time-honored practice of learning through outstanding applied, ensemble and lecture instruction continues.

The many accomplishments of our students, faculty and alumni will be evident as you read this year’s newsletter. Our faculty members continue to be committed to excellence in teaching and their own research and service accomplishments are detailed inside. I am also always excited to read of the many successes of our music alumni, who pursue careers in music education, performance or enter the corporate world. As you will see, music is alive and well at UNI, and we hope that you join us through your support, advocacy or visits to the university.

We continue to celebrate the School of Music’s 120+ years of professional growth with the expansion of our faculty and programming. The mounting of the Midwest International Piano Competition at UNI brought incredible youth and professional pianists from around the world to perform on our campus. In recent years, several of our faculty studios have reached the largest number of enrollments in the history of our school and this year is no exception. Our ensembles continue to excel through performance invitations around the globe. The UNI Marching Band will be the largest in school history this fall, with over 300 members, and the band received a prestigious invitation to perform in the 2015 New Year’s Day parade in London, England. Our Concert Chorale will be performing in Estonia as their international presence expands after their recent tour to Carnegie Hall in New York. You will read about the successful student tour by the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra to Brazil last year and their conductor’s prestigious invitation to conduct in China. And, the Varsity Men’s Glee Club ventured to Spain with another successful performance tour added to their long and valued history.

We move forward in our continuing leadership role as the “music education” school in the state of Iowa and the United States. Our prestigious national accreditation awarded by the commission of the National Association of School of Music is in place through 2021. Our school’s quest to be a “national model of excellence” in the heartland of America is alive and thriving. Please join us for a visit or return trip.

Sincerely,

John Vallentine
Professor & Director
The UNI School of Music hosted the Midwest International Piano Competition on the UNI campus June 1-7. This year marked the inaugural celebration of this new, biennial, global piano competition. The event was open to outstanding youth and professional performing pianists and audience enthusiasts.

The competition featured 26 exceptional pianists from around the world including Japan, China, Ukraine, Israel, Russia, South Korea, South Africa, the United States and more. Awards were given for top three finalists in both junior (up to 17 years) and senior (up to 32 years) categories, and six semi-finalists in the senior category also received honorable mention awards.

“The Midwest International Piano Competition at UNI was a world-class event in regard to the performers competing and the judges who adjudicated the event,” John Vallentine, Director of the School of music, said. “One of the wonderful aspects about music is being able to bring musicians together from around the world who are extremely dedicated and have a passion for music.”

Margaryta Golovko (Ukraine) was awarded first place in the senior category, claiming a $10,000 cash prize, as well as a recording deal with the Blue Griffin record label, an artist management contract with Heartland Concert Artists and a performance opportunity with the wcfsymphony in the 2014-15 season. Elina Akselrud (Ukraine-USA) claimed the second place award in the senior category ($5,000) while Tomer Gewirtzman (Israel) claimed the third place prize ($2,500).

Faculty artists Sean Botkin and Dmitri Vorobiev served as artistic directors for
the competition while Polina Khatsko and Serena Hou served as administrative assistants. Considering the talent drawn to the competition in its first year, Botkin noted, “We were really thoroughly impressed with these applicants,” adding that the junior-level applicants were especially impressive. “They were playing repertoires beyond their years with so much maturity.”

Jury members awarded a tie for first prize in the junior division. Mayuki Miyashita (Japan) and Michael Lu (USA) shared the honor. William Yang (USA) was awarded second place in the junior division, while Yinuo Wang (China) claimed the third place junior prize.

Jury members Miroslav Brejcha (Czech Republic), Arthur Greene (USA) and Alexander Toradze (USA-Georgia) spent each day of the competition hearing competitors in three rounds. Audience members gathered for the junior finals on June 6 and senior finals on June 7. All awards were distributed after the conclusion of the senior category finals competition on June 7, and audience members enjoyed an extended round of lavish receptions in the Gallagher-Bluedorn lobby where community members, UNI faculty and students were able to interact with the jurors and competitors while celebrating the success of this brand new, globally recognized event.

The next Midwest International Piano Competition is scheduled for summer 2016. For more information, visit www.midwestpianocompetition.com.

Editor’s note: Thank you to John Vallentine, Sean Botkin and the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier for their contributions to this article.
Professor of music and conductor **Rebecca Burkhardt** led the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra on a tour of spring break performances in Brazil, March 14–24.

Sixty student members of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra (NISO), four School of Music faculty artists and one UNI alumna found music to be a universal language while performing in Caxias do Sul, Brazil. On their way to Caxias do Sul, the group stopped for a layover and a cruise tour of the Panama Canal. During their stay in Brazil, the group rehearsed and performed with the Orchestra Sinfônica de Universidade de Caxias do Sul (OSUCS). The tour wrapped up with a performance in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

“The NISO takes a major tour every four years to expose students to different cultures and ways of making music, while also performing great music,” said Burkhardt.

This was the first time UNI students have gone to Brazil to perform with the university orchestra. Three of the four faculty members (Burkhardt, **Julia Bullard** and **Amanda McCandless**) have previously traveled to and performed with the orchestra; this was the first performance trip to Brazil for fourth faculty member **Heather Peyton**.

NISO members performed in chamber music ensembles for the OSUCS students. In turn, the Brazilian music students interacted with UNI students through a jazz improvisation session and by demonstrating Brazilian percussion techniques.

“The opportunity to repeat performances while on tour is an extremely valuable one for young musicians,” said Burkhardt. “It allows them to deepen their relationship with the music through expression and technical growth.”

Senior music education major **Kayla Becker** said she’s already benefitting from this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“To be able to go to another country where a different language is spoken and yet still be able to collaborate on Gustav Mahler’s massive work ‘Symphony No. 1’ is truly amazing,” she said. “I think I can speak on behalf of everyone in the orchestra when I say that we are thankful for this opportunity to make wonderful music with the hospitable people of the University of Caxias do Sul Symphony Orchestra.”

The trip to Brazil was supported by UNI’s School of Music, College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, Office of the Provost, Office of the President, NISO benefactors and by student contributions.

See the NISO in action at UNI’s Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center when they perform in the 2014-15 Spotlight Series.

*Editor’s note: Thank you to Rebecca Burkhardt, Kayla Becker and UNI University Relations for their contributions to this article.*

**NISO students dining in Brazil**
The UNI Varsity Men’s Glee Club embarked on their eighteenth international tour, traveling for the first time to Spain. Over the course of nine days the Glee Club sang in Ávila, Barcelona, Madrid and Valencia to large and enthusiastic audiences. Upon completing their final concert the Glee Club was immediately invited back to Spain by concert organizers, civic leaders, and audience members.

The most memorable concert for conductor John Len Wiles was held in the Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi of Barcelona.

“From the moment the guys entered the cathedral, it was clear that we were all focused on creating a dynamic and moving musical experience,” he said. “It was raining that night in Barcelona, and as we sang, the sound of the rain increased. Towards the end of the concert we sang Franz Biebl’s ‘Ave Maria,’ which has been a Glee Club standard for years. The music ebbs and flows through crescendos gradually for the first four or five minutes and then bursts into a sonorous forte before letting up in silence prior to a final ‘amen.’ In that moment of silence, which is normally filled with the echo of the Glee Club’s voice, a magnificent thunderclap from the outside storm cracked through the room -- as if giving us our next cue. Rather than creating alarm and distraction, the thunderclap’s boom was seamless in rhythm and texture and became an organic part of the concert. It was a truly special moment.”

The men on tour were thrilled to be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Jacob Ferguson, senior English Education major from Marion, Iowa, reflected on his second international tour with the Glee Club.

“Traveling as a student and as a musician is greatly important. Not only do the paintings and the historical sites become real places when you walk the streets and encounter them in person, you are also able to immerse yourself in the spirit of the place as well. During our trip we performed a concert at a church in the hometown of Tomás Luis de la Victoria, the father of Spanish Renaissance music, and it just gave every line in the music a new significance.” Ferguson concluded, “This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I will carry the memory with me forever.”

Joel Haack, Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, also traveled with the group on their visit to Spain. Haack noted, “Linda and I thoroughly enjoyed traveling with Dr. John Wiles and the Varsity Men’s Glee Club to Spain this past May. The Glee Club members represented the university superbly, both with their comportment as visitors to Spain and with the quality of their performances, both in concert and as the opportunity presented itself while touring. The group had memorized more than twenty pieces of music, which they were ready and willing to sing at a moment’s notice, in circumstances ranging from waiting for a thunderstorm to pass while on the tarmac of O’Hare airport to the field of the Real Madrid soccer stadium to the stairs surrounding Gaudi’s famous mosaic lizard in Park Güell in Barcelona. The repertoire was quite sophisticated, with many pieces in Latin, allowing them to sing, for example, music by Tomás Luis de Victoria in Ávila where he was born in the 16th century. The Glee Club’s repertoire was quite sophisticated, with many pieces in Latin, allowing them to sing, for example, music by Tomás Luis de Victoria in Ávila where he was born in the 16th century. Highlights for me were in Valencia, when their concert, which helped celebrate the 775th anniversary of a church there, had an audience of several hundred people, and in Barcelona, when over 300 people gave them several standing ovations.”

The Glee Club plans to continue their tradition of camaraderie and excellence with their Christmas variety shows scheduled for December 5 and 6 this year. Please visit the Glee Club web site for more information at www.unigleeclub.com.

Editor’s note: Thank you to John Len Wiles, Jacob Ferguson and Joel and Linda Haack for their contributions to this article.
The evening will be filled with exceptional performances by student and faculty musicians as well as the Northern Iowa Wind Symphony, Jazz Band One, the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra with Combined Choirs and more!

As always, the end of the concert is only the beginning of the festivities. Plan to stay for excellent hors d’oeuvres and a County Fair-themed reception in the lobby, as well as post-show music featuring School of Music artists in Jebe Hall. You won’t want to miss it!
BECOMING A SPECIAL DONOR

The Scholarship Benefit Concerts have been raising scholarship funds for exceptionally talented music students and students in need since 1982. In addition to the income from ticket sales for the concerts, we have developed a network of community, small business, corporate and university-related donors. The extent of this support has been most gratifying to the students and faculty at UNI’s School of Music.

To allow us to continue the support we have provided in the past, please consider becoming a special donor*. Donor categories are as follows:

- **President’s Circle** -- $2,500 or more (up to 40 complimentary tickets available at this level of giving)
- **Dean’s Circle** -- $2,000 to $2,499 (up to 32 complimentary tickets)
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- **Patrons** -- $300 to $499 (up to four complimentary tickets)
- **Benefactors** -- $150 to $299 (up to two complimentary tickets)

To become a special donor and receive complimentary tickets, contact the School of Music office #72 Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center by calling (319) 273-2025.

All seats for the benefit concert are reserved. The final date for adding names to the special donor section of the acknowledgement page of the benefit concert program is Friday, September 12, 2014.

Individual tickets* may be purchased in person at the Gallagher-Bluedorn box office, by calling (319) 273-4TIX or (877) 549-SHOW (7469) or by visiting us online at www.unitix.uni.edu.

* All contributions and ticket costs for the Scholarship Benefit Concert are tax deductible less $10 for each person receiving champagne and hors d’oeuvres.

Thank you to the “Special Donors” from the 2013 Scholarship Benefit Concert

**Director’s Circle - $1,500 or more**
- Elly Leslie

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- Fred & Lorraine Hallberg
- J. Norman & Karen Kitchen
- Jack Petersen & Susan Chantland
- Jan & Steve Moore
- Jim & Janene Robertson
- JoDee Davis
- Joel & Linda Haack
- John & Mary Miller
- John & Susie Hines
- Jonathan Thull & Nancy Hagen
- Julia & Denis J. Kuhlmann
- Julia Bullard
- Karen & Micah Fannin
- Kent & Louise McIntyre
- Kristin J. Daggett
- Laura Runkle
- Leon & Linda Kuehner
- Lillian Joss
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Each fall, the UNI School of Music celebrates its rich history and honors the legacy built by outstanding individuals who have been a part of that history by inducting exceptional music educators, professional performers, arts advocates and/or business and community leaders into the UNI School of Music Hall of Fame. Recipients are nominated and voted on by the current School of Music faculty and inducted at the annual Scholarship Benefit Concert. In fall 2013, we were thrilled to announce the induction of Jon Hansen and James Miller into the UNI School of Music Hall of Fame.

Jon Hansen joined the faculty at UNI in 1969 as an Assistant Professor of Music, teaching trombone, low brass, low brass techniques and brass literature. He received his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees, both in trombone from UNI. Professor Hansen studied trombone privately with Frank Crisafulli, Chicago Symphony, Henry Smith, Minnesota Orchestra, Lewis Van Haney, Indiana University, and Arnold Jacobs of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Jon was promoted to Associate Professor of Music in 1974.

Jon performed as a trombonist with the Northern Brass Quintet throughout his tenure at UNI and with the wcfsymphony for over 30 years. Prior to joining the UNI music faculty, Jon taught instrumental music in several of Iowa’s schools and at Dickinson State College in North Dakota. Jon Hansen retired from UNI in 1993 and has become active as a naturalist, ecologist and amateur geologist.

Jon had an immense impact on our second 2013 Hall of Fame inductee (see below), as well as many other students who passed through the halls at UNI including Master Chief Mike Schmitz (U.S. Navy Band), Paul McKee (Assistant Professor of Jazz Trombone, Florida State University), Lee Gause (retired bass trombonist and 30-year leader of the United States Navy Band Commodores jazz ensemble) and many more. Many of the UNI graduates who studied with Hansen are very successful professional musicians, college professors or public school music educators.

James Miller accepts his award from President Ruud

James Miller is an outstanding professional musician, a world-class educator and a UNI School of Music alumnus. He currently serves as the associate principal trombonist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, a position he has held since 1999. His previous orchestral experience includes the North Carolina Symphony, the Long Island Philharmonic and the New York Philharmonic. James earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Northern Iowa and then traveled to New York for his Master of Music degree from the Juilliard School.

His performance experience includes the Silk Road Ensemble, the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra, the Michael Buble big band and a variety of jazz, rock, Latin and other professional ensembles. He has been a participant in multiple prestigious festivals. James is also a composer, and has had world premiere performances of his music in New York’s Lincoln Center. He continues to perform his own works in solo performances throughout the country.

Congratulations and thank you for the legacy of excellence that you have built, Jon and James!
This year was one of outstanding musical achievement in the UNI School of Music Jazz Division.

At the November 8 Jazz Band One Spotlight Series Concert, the UNI School of Music inducted Reggie Schive (BA ’51) as the newest member of the UNI Jazz Hall of Fame. Reggie Schive’s teaching experience covers some forty-eight years. He graduated with a Bachelor’s Degree from UNI and received his Master’s Degree in Music Education from the University of Colorado at Boulder. While a student at UNI, Reggie was a member of a core of students who, through the efforts of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, presented one of the first jazz concerts in the United States. The UNI festival later became known as the Tallcorn Jazz Festival.

Schive’s career in education began with a sixteen-year stay at Alta, Iowa, as the high school band director. From there he moved to Omaha, Nebraska, where he served ten years as an Associate Professor of Music and Director of Bands at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He moved back into the area of secondary school music education with two and a half years as high school band director at Humboldt, Iowa.

The collegiate musical life again called Reggie to Buena Vista College at Storm Lake, Iowa, where he was the Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music for seven years. His next seven years were spent as high school band director at West High School in Sioux City, Iowa. Since 1994, he served as an Adjunct Professor of clarinet and saxophone at Morningside College and teaching eighteen students privately in his home. His jazz experience included a great deal of playing at the professional level. He also appeared as a guest soloist, clinician and adjudicator at jazz festivals and contests in Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Illinois and Missouri.

The spring 2014 jazz performance season opened with the always stellar Tallcorn Jazz Festival, including the 63rd Annual Sinfonian Dimensions in Jazz concerts featuring guest artist Nachito Herrera, salsa pianist. Widely recognized as a young genius, Ignacio “Nachito” Herrera stunned Cuban audiences at the age of twelve, performing Rachmaninoff’s Concerto No. 2 with the Havana Symphony Orchestra. His love of classical music quickly combined with traditional Cuban rhythms under the instruction of the Cuban masters-Rubén González, Jorge Gomez Labraña, and Frank Fernández. In his twenties, Nachito became the musical director at the famous “Tropicana” in Cuba where he continued to deepen his repertoire. In the late 1990’s, Nachito joined the famed Cubanismo as its lead pianist, arranger, and musical director while cultivating a passion, talent and reputation in Latin Jazz; a striking influence in his music today.

Another year wrapped up for the UNI School of Music Jazz Division with consistently excellent educational and musical pursuits, and with an eye to the future and more excitement to come.
Success Stories: Community Outreach Programs at UNI School of Music

The UNI School of Music celebrated another wonderful year of helping to create and sustain a vibrant, musical presence in the Cedar Valley community. Our ongoing outreach programs span all ages, all abilities and experiences and cater to many interests. Community members are always sure to find a musical opportunity to suit their lifestyle. The UNI Suzuki School and UNI Community Music School are bringing music to the lives of many eager community musicians.

During the thirty-eight years of the UNI Suzuki School the quality of teaching has insured the success of the program. Suzuki school instructor Suzanne Bullard remembers one particularly difficult student who “with time turned out to be both one of my best cello students as well as a responsible and caring adult.” She enjoys the challenges and working alongside her “fabulous colleagues” who share “Dr. Suzuki’s idea that we are developing the whole child through our instruction, and that our end goal is not only to produce fine musicians, but fine human beings.”

Teachers are also inspired by working with young students. After listening to the second movement of a violin concerto a younger student commented, “It sounds like a flower blooming.” Suzuki instructor Holly schult shares, “Watching students connect to complex and beautiful music is such a joy, and that is one of my favorite parts of teaching at the Suzuki School. I also love the camaraderie and support of the other teachers and watching the friendships that develop amongst the children and parents.”

Inspiration from students, gratifying teaching experiences and satisfying working relationships with our families and colleagues makes for a winning combination for our faculty. We look forward to serving students in the Cedar Valley for years to come.

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The UNI Children’s Choir (UNICC), under the direction of Michelle Swanson, has had another exciting year. The ensemble presented two on-campus semester concerts and was invited to perform at the 2014 Celebrate Singing Festival. In addition to performing as an individual choir, the UNICC also performed with several other select choirs in a mass choir at the event, also conducted by Mrs. Swanson. The festival was a huge success and the UNI School of Music was represented well.

The group, now over 100 members, has been invited to perform at the 2014 Iowa Music Educators Conference in November and will also perform as part of the 2014-15 Spotlight Series at the School of Music. “It is going to be a very exciting year,” states Swanson. “The group continues to thrive. The UNI students working with the group continue to learn many practical teaching lessons. UNICC is an amazing pedagogical tool.”

The UNI Community Music School (UNI CMS) has recently completed its ninth year of programming and it is a good time to step back and reflect on the mission and impact of CMS. The mission of UNI CMS has always been to offer quality music education to area youth and adults as well as to provide real life opportunities for UNI School of Music students to teach in a supervised setting. As important as this mission is, the impact of CMS Community Engagement is the real testimony to its value.

Prime examples of CMS Community Engagement are comments by representatives of three UNI CMS programs.

UNI New Horizons Band (85 participants): “The challenge of developing one’s skill on an instrument, learning a wide variety of music, and playing in an ensemble provides an environment energized by new relationships among band members, the excitement of intellectual challenge, and the joy of participating in making music.” - Gail Froyen

CMS Community Partnership Programs
(25 participants): “When asked to answer the question: ‘Would you like to participate in Camp Musicmania again?’ a third grader responded, ‘Yes, I would like to go again! It’s fun, and you get to perform in front of your parents. You meet new people. You get to play instruments. And if I go back next year I will get a speaking part!’ It’s comments like this that have made the collaboration so rewarding for our congregation as well. We, too, have had fun. We, too, have met new people. But most of all, we want to keep going so we, too, can have a speaking part in our church neighborhood.” - Kathy Sanborn

CMS Camp Musicmania (230 campers): “I am always amazed at the cheerful enthusiasm provided by your capable [Camp Musicmania] staff. The general spirit of adventure and camaraderie which campers share is also quite contagious. Not only is Spencer a delight as a camper, but he sings all the way home. Thank you so much!” - Margaret Bradford

As is evident in the above comments, UNI CMS has been true to its original mission and in the process has become a very viable Community Engagement program within the UNI School of Music and the University in general. This all speaks to the power of music to enrich the lives of those around us.

Editor’s note: Thank you to Cathy Craig, Michelle Swanson and Cindi Mason for their contributions to this article.
New Faculty Members

Joining the School of Music faculty this year are Randall Harlow, Assistant Professor of Organ and Music Theory, Amy Kotsonis, Assistant Professor of Choral Ensembles and Music Education, Mitra Sadeghpour, Assistant Professor of Opera, and Anthony Williams, Assistant Professor of Trombone. We are pleased to introduce them to you and to welcome them to the UNI School of Music.

Dr. Randall Harlow has accepted the Assistant Professor of Organ and Music Theory position in the UNI School of Music. Dr. Harlow has a DMA from the Eastman School of Music, MM from Emory University, and a BM and Performer Diploma from Indiana University. He has served as a full-time temporary instructor at UNI the last two years, and previously taught at Cornell University, Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, and Indiana University. Dr. Harlow has performed extensively across the United States and abroad, and has published articles and presented papers globally.

Dr. Amy Kotsonis has accepted the Assistant Professor of Choral Ensembles and Music Education position in the UNI School of Music. Amy recently completed her Ph.D. in Choral Conducting and Music Education from Florida State University. She received her MA in Choral Conducting and Music History from the University of New Hampshire and a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from New York University. Previously she served as the Assistant Director of the Young People’s Chorus of New York City, and taught at Sterling Middle School in Quincy, Massachusetts and Edward R. Murrow High School in Brooklyn, New York. Professor Kotsonis has presented her research at the Phenomenon of Singing International Research Symposium in Newfoundland, Canada, and co-presented at the American Choral Directors Association National Convention in Dallas. Professor Kotsonis has guest conducted and served as a clinician/adjudicator throughout the United States.

Dr. Mitra Sadeghpour has accepted the Assistant Professor of Opera position in the UNI School of Music. Dr. Sadeghpour has DMA and MM degrees from Indiana University and a BM from Luther College. She served as an award-winning Associate Professor of Music at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire from 2002-2014, where she taught voice, voice and opera literature, and served as director of the opera program. Dr. Sadeghpour has recently taught in Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, and she created and ran the New York City Young Artist Domestic Immersion Program from 2012-2014. Dr. Sadeghpour has directed multiple stage productions by Strauss, Mozart, Britten, Purcell, Lehar, Puccini and Rossini, and she is a frequent soprano recitalist, concert musician and researcher. Dr. Sadeghpour has served as a member and national office holder in the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

Dr. Anthony Williams has accepted the Assistant Professor of Trombone position in the UNI School of Music. Dr. Williams has a DMA from the University of Memphis, MM from UNI, and BM from the University of Central Arkansas. He has served as an instructor of trombone at UNI, Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Mary and Instructor of Music at Lemoyne-Owen College. Dr. Williams has performed and served as a soloist, chamber musician, symphony player, lecturer, clinician and adjudicator in the United States and Canada.

For more information on School of Music faculty artists, visit www.uni.edu/music/directory.

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Faculty Activities

Alison Altstatt, assistant professor of musicology/music history
- Presented the paper “Why did the Cantrix need a Computus?” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, MI.
- Submitted several works for publication in major journals.

Korey Barrett, assistant professor of vocal coaching and collaborative piano
- Served as Music Director and Vocal coach at his opera company in San Diego called Opera Neo. Visit operaneo.com.
- Performed numerous recitals at UNI and as guest in Coronado and Chula Vista, CA.
- Served as Chair of the UNI Voice Division and President of the UNI chapter of Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society.

Sean Botkin, associate professor of piano
- Performed Rachmaninoff’s 4th Piano Concerto with the Orchestra of the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome, Italy.
- Served as Co-Artistic Director for the first ever Midwest International Piano Competition at UNI. For more on the competition, see page 3.
- Performed several concerts at UNI and throughout Iowa.

Melinda Boyd, assistant professor of music history
- Organized and hosted the first annual Iowa Musicology Conference, at UNI in April 2014.
- Successfully completed a Summer Fellowship from the UNI Graduate College, awarded for research/writing a monograph on the music of Dolly Parton.

Ann Bradfield, assistant professor of saxophone
- Performed as soloist at the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference in Champaign, IL.
- Appeared in concert at eleven UNI events and offered master classes at the Northern Festival of Bands and UNI All State Clinics.
- Organized and hosted UNI Saxophone Day as well as saxophone guest artist performances and master classes.

Jeff Brich, instructor of applied voice
- Appeared as tenor soloist at the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center’s Crème de la Crème concert, May 2013.
- Performed at UNI in a collaborative recital with Jean McDonald and Korey Barrett.
- Performed as UNI commencement soloist and soloist at the fall 2013 Presidential Installation Ceremony at UNI.

Julia Bullard, associate director of graduate studies and associate professor of viola and theory
- Performed with the group Trio 826 in France and Brazil, as well as in residency at UNI and throughout Iowa.
- Appeared on Iowa Public Radio with Trio 826 in an airing of the Rock Island, IL, performance.
- Offered numerous performances at UNI and coordinated the UNI Viola Festival.

Rebecca Burkhardt, professor of music and conductor of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra
- Directed international tour to Brazil for the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, appearing as conductor and collaborator at multiple events.
- Appeared as guest conductor with the Chengdu Symphony Orchestra in China, November 2013.
- For more on Burkhardt’s achievements, please see page 21.

Theresa Camilli, assistant professor of piano pedagogy and music education
- Celebrated three separate articles accepted for national publications: “Clavier Companion”; “Music Teachers National Association e-Journal”; and “Music Educators Journal”.
- Received Guernsey Foundation grant to fund a year-long, Service-Learning initiative for the graduate Piano Pedagogy program.
- Served as Editor of Iowa Music Teachers Magazine and Grant Writer for the “Midwest International Piano Competition”

Jonathan Chenoweth, associate professor of cello
- Published “Chamber Music as Service Learning,” article for the Fall 2013 issue of “ArtReach”, a publication highlighting CHAS outreach efforts.

Kevin Droe, associate professor of music education
- Served as conductor at the Cedar Rapids 8th Grade Band Festival.
- Presented two research papers at the IMEA Conference in Ames, Iowa.
- Continued extensive research on several topics including rock band participation (adults), Spectrum Music, music and the autism spectrum, and empathetic teacher behaviors.

Robert Dunn, instructor of guitar
- Directed UNI Wire Choir performance at UNI Scholarship Benefit Concert
- Hosted and performed with jazz/classical guitarist Michael Krajewski at UNI, April 2014.
- Performed classical and electric guitar at numerous community and University events.

Angeleita Floyd, professor of flute
- Selected to receive the 2014-2015 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. This award was created by the Board of Regents, State of Iowa to recognize a small group of colleagues from all three regents institutions who have been recognized as having “a sustaining record of excellence across the spectrum of faculty endeavors.”
- Appeared as a guest conductor at XXIII Festival Internacional de Flautistas, Quito, Ecuador.
- Celebrated an outstanding number of student awards and achievements.

Jeffery Funderburk, professor of tuba/euphonium
- Selected as recipient of the 2014 College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences Dean’s Award for Excellence in Service.
- Presented 5 electronic music concerts
• Served as piano faculty and presented two professor of piano
• Performed with Mannheim Steamroller
• As a soloist, played two faculty recitals, an faculty recitals, an
• Played in the Brit Festival Orchestra Randy Grabowski, professor of trumpet
• Appeared as guest conductor for honor honor bands and wind ensembles in Louisina, bands and wind ensembles in Louisiana, South Dakota and Iowa.

Randy Grabowski, professor of trumpet
• Played in the Brit Festival Orchestra (Jacksonville, OR), wcfsymphony, and Five Seasons Festival Orchestra (Cedar Rapids).
• As a soloist, played two faculty recitals, an organ chamber concert, with the Iowa City String Orchestra, and with the Cedar Falls Municipal Band.
• Performed with Mannheim Steamroller in Cedar Falls and Mason City; Sachal Vasandani at Iowa City Jazz Festival, Faculty Brass Quartet, and Bill Shepherd Big Band.

Robin Guy, professor of piano
• Presented two juried collaborative performances (flute/oboe trio and duo) at National Flute Association Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.
• Served as piano faculty and presented two collaborative performances (clarinet/cello trio and piano duo) at Interlochen Center for the Arts on Faculty and Composers Faculty concerts.
• Concluded four years service on Iowa Music Teachers Association (IMTA) Executive Board; adjudicated upper-level IMTA Auditions and Festival in Ames. For more on Robin’s achievements, see page 22.

Frederick Halgedahl, associate professor of violin
• Performed on four recitals at UNI and two outreach performances in Iowa, and is actively pursuing new repertoire for violin.
• Celebrated numerous student achievements.
• Served on several School of Music committees.

Randall Harlow, visiting professor of organ
• Presented a paper at an international conference at the Eastman School of Music on the future of acoustic music in the age of augmented reality.
• Invited speaker at an international symposium in Amsterdam, presenting a paper on “Hyperorgan” technology.
• Published an article in the journal Keyboard Perspectives establishing a new field of music performance research called “psychohaptics.”

John Hines, associate professor of voice
• Appeared in a gala performance with artists of the Mariinsky Opera in St. Petersburg, Russia, and offered national performances in Wisconsin and Missouri.
• Served as American delegate and juror for the 4th Boris Shokolov International Vocal Competition, Herzen Music School of the Herzen Pedagogical University in St. Petersburg, Russia.
• Received a 2014 Apple Polisher Award and served as member on several School of Music committees.

Randy Hogancamp, associate professor of percussion
• Hosted Iowa/Hungary Percussion Duo for performances, clinics, and master classes (August-September 2013).
• Directed the Kaji-Daiko Taiko Ensemble in performance at the Scholarship Benefit Concert and three performances with the UNI Panther Marching Band.
• Composed the percussion quartet RENISKU on commission from Gabor Palatos – the piece was performed by the winning group in the National Hungarian Percussion Ensemble Competition.

Ronald Johnson, professor of instrumental music
• Appeared as conductor of the Wind Symphony and led the ensemble in six concert performances through 2013-14.
• Served as Chair of the Division of Large Ensembles and Conducting and as member of several other School of Music committees.

• Created the new Iowa Band Conductors Forum (held at UNI, January 2014) and directed the 2nd annual Northern Iowa Band Invitational.

Amanda McCandless, assistant professor of clarinet
• Appeared as soloist with the Caxias do Sul Symphony Orchestra, presented a chamber music recital and master class while on tour with the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra in Brazil.
• Performed as soloist with the Waterloo Municipal Band, UNI Symphonic Band and UNI Wind Symphony, and performed on numerous recitals, master classes and recordings in 2013-14.
• Served as Chair of the Woodwind/ Percussion Division and on several School of Music committees.

Jean McDonald, professor of voice
• Performed a faculty artist recital at UNI in collaboration with Jeffrey Brich and Korey Barrett, March 2014, and directed/produced Une soirée de melodies francaises at UNI, February 2014.
• Celebrated numerous student awards, roles and achievements.
• Served as Chair of the Large Grant Committee, College of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences, and as member of several School of Music and university committees.

Christopher Merz, professor of jazz
• Directed UNI Jazz Band One and combos in many performances, and appeared as guest conductor for All-State jazz bands in Wyoming, Minnesota and Nevada.
• Performed numerous times with the Hands of Time Quartet, Equilateral, the SEXTet, Bob Washut Trio, Colossus Big Band and more.
• Published seven new original compositions in summer 2013.

Dyan Meyer, instructor and conductor of choral ensembles
• Coordinated the 2013 Vocal Arts Festival.
• Appeared as conductor for many UNI choral concert performances.
• Served as member of several School of Music committees including Music Education Division and the Division of Large Ensembles and Conducting.
Leslie Morgan, associate professor of voice
- Served on several professional committees in the School of Music in 2013-14.
- Celebrated many honors and achievements earned by students and alumni in her studio.
- Prepared several students for recitals at UNI.

Heather Peyton, assistant professor of oboe and music theory
- Performed with the Orquestra Sinfônica de UCS in Porto Alegre and Caxias do Sul while on tour with the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra in Brazil.
- Appeared in concert with the Wartburg Community Symphony and the wcfsymphony, in addition to numerous collaborative recitals and one solo recital at UNI.
- Coordinated the Spotlight Series Performance Competition and served as member on several School of Music committees.

David Rachor, professor of bassoon and saxophone
- Coordinated the spring 2014 Bassoon and Friends recital.
- Celebrated his official retirement from the School of Music at UNI after 25 years of service. Congratulations, David!

Alan Schmitz, associate director of undergraduate studies and professor of music theory and composition
- Received a premier of his new chamber piece HEXACHORD FANTASY by the University of Iowa Center for New Music, directed by David Gompper, on February 15, 2014.
- Directed undergraduate advising activities for music majors and minors.

Jonathan Schwabe, professor of composition/theory
- Celebrated the premiere of his piece “Morning of the Curious Hoarfrost,” a work for chamber orchestra commissioned for the Magnetic South New Music Series, a collaboration between the Charleston Symphony and College of Charleston (Charleston, SC).
- Celebrated the premiere of his piece “Max and the Amazing Tinkus,” for trumpet and string orchestra, performed by the Iowa City Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Carey Bostian with Randy Grabowski soloist.
- Served as chair of a search committee and as member of several other School of Music committees in 2013-14.

Yu-Ting (Tina) Su, associate professor of horn
- Performed numerous times with the Dubuque Symphony, Orchestra Iowa and the wcfsymphony, as well as in solo and collaborative recitals at UNI and throughout Iowa.
- Appeared in several international performances in China and Taiwan.
- Served as host to two guest artists and served as committee member on numerous School of Music committees in 2013-14.

Michelle Swanson, instructor of music education
- Conducted the OPUS (Iowa All-State Elementary Choir) at the annual Iowa Music Educators’ Conference in November, 2013.
- Conducted the Celebrate Singing Choral Festival in April, 2014.
- Hosted four workshops in Elementary Music Education (fall-spring) that over 100+ music educators attended.

Diane Vallentine, instructor of music theory
- Composed an original composition for SATB choir entitled “Precious Child” - premieried by the Cedar Falls High School Concert Choir in December 2013.

John Vallentine, professor and director of the School of Music
- Served as Executive Director of the inaugural Midwest International Piano Competition at UNI and produced the 32nd Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert.
- Appeared as Commencement Marshal for the fall and spring Commencement Exercises at UNI, and hosted two meetings at UNI for the Iowa K-16 Task Force for Music Education.
- Selected to serve as National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Experienced Evaluation Chair.

Dmitri Vorobiev, assistant professor of piano
- Acted as Artistic Director for the Leipzig Summer Piano Institute in Leipzig, Germany, and served on the jury of the Smetana International Piano Competition in Pilsen, Czech Republic.
- Served as Co-Artistic Director for the first ever Midwest International Piano Competition at UNI. For more on the competition, see page 3. Performed on numerous local and regional concerts including the GBPAC’s Crème de la Crème concert, and presented a solo piano recital in Lyceum fur Claviery in Leipzig, Germany.

Robert Washut, professor of jazz studies
- Selected as recipient of the 2014 College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences Dean’s Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship or Creative Activity.
- Directed the UNI Jazz Panthers and jazz combos in numerous performances at UNI and throughout Iowa, and performed as pianist on seven concerts and one recording in 2013-14.
- Celebrated many performances of his original compositions and arrangements including a premiere of his piece “The High Road” on the 32nd annual Scholarship Benefit Concert.

John Wiles, assistant professor of choral conducting,
- Conducted the Varsity Men’s Glee Club, UNI Singers and the ongoing Bach Cantata Series, and served as Chorusmaster for the Chimes of Christmas concert.
- Presented two papers at the Hawaii University International Conference on Arts Humanities and Social Sciences, January 2014.
- Served as TTBB R/S Chair for the Iowa Choral Director’s Association and was an honorary inductee into Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

Anthony Williams, instructor of trombone
- Appeared as guest artist in North Dakota, Tennessee and throughout Iowa.
- Performed solo and collaborative recitals at UNI, as well as performances with the wcfsymphony, Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Iowa, Mike Conrad Big Band and more.
- Redeveloped the Trombone Choir at UNI, created the UNI Jazz Trombone Ensemble and served on several School of Music committees.

University of Northern Iowa
The School of Music is always excited to hear from our exceptional retired professors. We continue to see the lasting effect of their years of dedication and service to our students, and are happy to bring you news on their current projects and travels.

**David Buch** – David wrote to us sending his best from Chicago and well wishes for his UNI family, along with an update on his busy and musically active year. “Last July I was a guest lecturer for a second year at the Pittsburgh Summer Opera Fest. I was a faculty member at the NEH Summer Institute for College and University Teachers, “Music and Travel in Europe and the Americas, 1500-1800” at the Newberry Library in July 2013. My scholarly edition of Franz Xaver Süßmayr’s opera Der Spiegel von Arkadien (Vienna 1794) appeared in the series Recent Researches in the Music of the Classical Era (Vols. 92-93, A-R Editions, 2014). I conducted workshops on Wagner’s Parsifal and Mozart’s La clemenza di Tito for Chicago Lyric Opera Community Lecturers in 2013. I wrote the essays on Mozart’s La clemenza di Tito (2013) and Don Giovanni (2014) for the Lyric Opera Companion. I delivered the pre-opera lectures for Mozart’s La clemenza di Tito at Chicago Lyric Opera in March 2014. I will be conducting workshops on Mozart’s Don Giovanni and Weinberg’s The Passenger in August 2014 for the Chicago Lyric Opera Community Lecturers, and I will be delivering the pre-opera lectures for Mozart’s Don Giovanni in September and October of 2014.”

**Bruce Chidester** – After receiving the automated weather announcement messages from UNI reporting record snowfall in Cedar Falls, Bruce wrote to us playfully asking, “Could you use another snow blower?” (see photo above)

**Marilou Kratzenstein** – Marilou wrote to share the highlights of a busy and exciting year! “A highlight of 2013-14 was a three-week trip to France, where I stayed in a chic Parisian apartment for nine days and got reacquainted with this wonderful city,” Marilou noted. “I had loved exploring Paris when I was a student there. So the trip provided moments of nostalgia in addition to excitement as I discovered ways in which Paris had changed. I hadn’t spoken French on a regular basis for half a century, so imagine the fun I had trying to recover bits and pieces of my former language proficiency. After Paris, my traveling companion and I drove around the countryside where we stayed in B&B’s in scenic areas. Too bad I’m not a travel writer, so that I could do this for a living!”

**Marleta Matheson** – Marleta sent an update on her active and involved year in Cedar Falls. “This year marks 24 years since I took early retirement at 57 from the School of Music. I must say I haven’t lacked for anything interesting or worthwhile to do. Last June my son, Davis, and I enjoyed a 10-day land/cruise to Alaska. I still enjoy playing golf and bridge, going to football and basketball games, wcfsymphony concerts, GBPAC Artist Series and School of Music performances, HD at the Met Opera series at the local movie theatre, and weekly attendance at Rotary (still playing for their singing). The most exciting event this year was the premier Midwest International Piano Competition of which I was honored to be a member of the Board. It was a huge success, drawing contestants from all over the world.” For more on Marleta, see page 25.

**Bill Shepherd** – Bill shared an exciting post-retirement update with us, noting “I ‘officially’ retired in December of 2009 but still observe student teachers for the School of Music. I enjoy observing our students as they prepare for their next step into the world of teaching. After 38 years playing in the wcfsymphony, I retired. It was a bittersweet decision but my embouchure was asking for relief. I still play with my combo, Red Hots Dixieland Band and this October will release a second Big Band Christmas CD with guest vocalist Nola Shepherd. I conducted eight Waterloo Municipal Band concerts in June and July in the new RiverLoop Ampatheatre. I have been arranging chorales/hymns for the band, which I use as warm-up material.”

**Thomas Tritle** – Tom wrote to us to say, “I am continuing my post-retirement metamorphosis into a jazz pianist. I’ve formed a cocktail jazz duo with local vocalist and UNI grad Stephanie Althof (Jazz with Steph and Tom), and we’re doing such venues as the New Aldaya Pub and area retirement homes, specializing in jazz standards. I’m also pianist with the Cedar Valley Big Band.”
The UNI School of Music proudly recognizes last year’s competition winners and acknowledges the many honors and awards that our students have earned.

At our 2014 Spotlight Series Performance Competition Finals, Hayley Graham, clarinet, was named the 2014 Presser Scholar and awarded the $4800 Presser Foundation Award. Graham is a junior at UNI, where she is studying clarinet performance and public relations. She is currently the principal clarinet in the UNI Wind Symphony, of which she has been a member for three years. In addition, she recently had the opportunity to travel to southern Brazil as a member of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra. She has also been a part of an array of ensembles and student organizations on campus, including the Panther Marching Band, pep band, clarinet ensemble, and a clarinet quartet. Currently, Hayley serves as vice president of ritual for the Alpha Upsilon chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota and is an active member of the UNI Honors Program.

The $2000 Charles and Marleta Matheson Award was awarded to Leila Lensing, soprano. Lensing is from Solon. Throughout high school she participated in mixed choirs, jazz choir and musicals. Leila is a choral music education major at UNI studying under Dr. Jean McDonald. While attending UNI, she has been a part of UNI Singers, Concert Chorale, Cantorei and Opera. She has performed the role of Mrs. Peachum in The Beggar’s Opera and the 2nd Witch in Dido and Aeneas.

Alyssa Adamec, viola, was awarded the $1000 Myron and Ruth Russell Award for her performance. From Coralville, Alyssa began playing piano at age three and the viola at age nine. By age ten, she started studying viola with William Preucil Sr. at the Preucil School of Music in Iowa City. In high school, Alyssa completed the Preucil School Certificate Program. Alyssa toured Austria with the Preucil School String Orchestra in 2009, played with the West High School Orchestra and was a part of the Iowa All-State Orchestra on the viola for four years. At UNI, Alyssa has been a finalist twice in the UNI Concerto Competition, performs with the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, is a School of Music Ambassador and a substitute violist for the wcfsymphony for the 2013-14 season. She is studying Viola Performance with Dr. Julia Bullard and Communication Disorders, and earning a Certificate in Spanish for Special Purposes.

Jessica Schick, piano, was awarded to the top honors at the UNI School of Music Instrumental Concerto Competition Finals Concert each spring, for her performance of Mendelssohn’s Variations sérieuses Op. 58.

In November 2013, Brent Smith was awarded the top honor at the UNI School of Music Instrumental Concerto Competition Finals. Brent Michael Smith is currently working towards a Masters degree in Vocal Performance at the University of Northern Iowa, studying with Dr. John Hines. He also studies piano with Dr. Dmitri Vorobiev.

He graduated from Hope College with a Bachelor’s of Music in Piano Performance, with a minor in Spanish. While there, he studied piano with Dr. Andrew Le and Charles Aschbrenner. He also studied voice with Linda Dykstra. His time at Hope was well spent, allowing him to get involved in the Nykerk Cup Competition, the Chapel Choir and various chamber music ensembles. Brent is the winner of two Dr. Leon A. Montague Awards for piano, sponsored by the Owosso Musicales of Owosso, Michigan. He has won the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony Piano Concerto Competition as well as Hope College’s Concerto/Aria Competition. Brent was born and raised in the small town of Owosso, Michigan.

Aaron Ottmar, senior music education major from Iowa City, was voted as the audience favorite at the November Instrumental Concerto Competition and as the winner of the Wind Symphony Solo Competition. Aaron will appear with the Wind Symphony, next fall, as soloist.

In addition to our own performance competitions, UNI School of Music students earned numerous other honors throughout the year. Additional student accomplishments include:

Gabe Schott, senior music education major from Prairie City, was selected to participate in the Music Technology Leadership Academy in San Antonio, TX, in February 2014. The Leadership Academy is offered in association with the Technology Institute for Music Educators, NAMM and the Texas Music Educators Association.

Samantha Kantak, graduate vocal performance major from Webster City, will be pursuing a doctoral degree in Voice Performance and Pedagogy at the University of North Texas in the fall. She
School of Music Earns High Honors

With the long list of awards and honors that School of Music students earned this year, it may come as no surprise to learn that many of our students are part of the Honors program at UNI. The Honors program at UNI aims to offer a more challenging, rewarding and engaging experience to UNI students, through advanced coursework in liberal arts and other Honors curriculum as well as a final senior thesis/project. The School of Music is proud to congratulate our Honors program students and those who have earned a place on the Dean’s List or as a Presidential or Provost Scholar this year. Scholars are as follow:

**Honor’s Program Students:**

Elizabeth Anderson, Emily Bicknese, Malcolm Burke, Nicholas Carlo, Hannah Carr-Murphy, Linnea Casey, Ben Castle, Micaya Dawson, Arianna Edverson, Ryan Garmoe, Kyle Geesey, Megan Grey, Alissandra Henkle, Taylor Hicks, Megan Kingerly, Anna Larson, Abigail Lee, Brent Mead, Jotham Polashek, Laura Rodriguez, Nicholas Schumacher, Elizabeth Simmons, Mary Thiry and Colin Wilson.

**Presidential Scholars:**

Emily Bicknese, Ben Castle, Kyle Geesey, Alissandra Henkle, Megan Kingerly and Brent Mead.

The School of Music would also like to congratulate the School of Music students who appeared on the fall 2013 and spring 2014 Dean’s List. To be included on the list, a student must have earned a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale, while taking at least 12 hours of graded work during the semester.

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**Student Spotlight: Jillian Whitaker**

Music major Jillian Whitaker spent her spring break visiting Los Angeles to intern with music producer, engineer and UNI alumnus Jim Linahon. Reflecting on working with Jillian, Linahon noted, “All the composers were impressed with Jillian’s music and felt that she had the skills and musical gifts to succeed in the industry.” We asked Jillian to share a little bit about her experience.

I interned with UNI grad Jim Linahon for the week. Monday, I met with Israeli composer Assaf Rinde who specializes in trailer music but has done a lot of film and video game music as well. I also met with composer/orchestrator Peter Boyer that afternoon. Jim considers him to be the next John Williams and he is a brilliant orchestrator and composer. He’s worked on a ton of major Hollywood films (“Up”, “Skyfall”, “Amazing Spider-Man”, “Fantastic Four” and more). He’s also a great guy and we were able to look at some of my works and also listen to his (Symphony No. 1) in his home.

Tuesday, I spent time in Jim’s studio watching him do a recording session with a college jazz band from Japan with a couple of big name jazz artists from L.A. sitting in (Andy Martin and Joe LaBarbera). It was great to be able to watch a professional audio engineer and see how he worked.

Wednesday, I had a meeting with composer, orchestrator, and saxophonist Bill Liston. He works a lot on video game music and has orchestrated for films like Pirates of the Caribbean. I learned a lot about how the industry works from him and what a job as an orchestrator is like. We also took some time that day to tour downtown L.A. and got a full tour of Disney Hall which was fantastic.

Thursday, I met with Fullbright Scholar composer Brent Pierce. He is one of the most published choral composers in the United States and a really successful all-around composer.

I didn’t have much down time during my trip but it was a fantastic experience and I learned so much from it. The film music industry is an insanely demanding and difficult industry to be a part of, but everyone I met with does it for the love of the music which is why I’m so excited to be a part of it. After talking with everyone there I’ve decided to turn down my grad school offers, save up six months of rent and move to Los Angeles to begin looking for work. Scary but exciting!

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**Katherine Kneisley**, graduate vocal performance major from Rochester, NH, took the first place honor in the Creative Performance category of the Seventh Annual Graduate Student Symposium for her performance of “Come scoglio” from Cosi fan tutte by Mozart.

**Erin Malbry**, trumpet, Jillian Whitaker, saxophone, and Nicholas Wills, horn, were recipients of the Wind Symphony Outstanding Musician Award for the 2013-14 academic year. The recipients are nominated and elected each spring by all members of the Wind Symphony. The award is given to the students who exhibit the highest standards and traditions of musicianship, scholarship and leadership.
2013-14 was another fantastic year in the School of Music, filled with exceptional guest artists and clinicians visiting and sharing their talent and experience with School of Music students and faculty. Through hands-on master classes, thrilling performances and interactive discussions, these inspiring guests and masters of music offered students a world of opportunity to find out why choosing music is truly an inspiring path.

**August 2013**

A whirlwind year of guest artists began in August when the artists of the Zodiac Ensemble presented a recital. Comprised of reedsmen Aaron Kruziki and Mike Bjella, bassist Karl McComas-Reichl, and drummers Colin Stranahan and Devin Drobka, the Zodiac Ensemble has given concerts across the United States, Europe, South America, Africa and Asia. The Zodiac's unique style is based around strong melody and group improvisation informed by the New York jazz scene, Armenian folk music, honesty, American top 40, sacred music and their collective classical background.

**September 2013**

September was a very busy month in the school of music, kicked off with The Iowa/Hungary Percussion Project, founded by UNI faculty artist Matthew Andreini (Iowa) and guest artist Gabor Palotas (Hungary). The goal of this project is to foster the development and performance of new music for percussion duo. Palotas returned later in September to offer a solo recital as well. Andreini and Palotas collaborated with six Iowan and Hungarian composers for a tour which took place in 2013, including their UNI performance. For more information visit www.iowahungaryproject.com.

UNI School of Music faculty artists Amanda McCandless, clarinet, and Polina Khatsko, piano, collaborated with guest artist Dessislava Nenova, cello, as well as additional faculty artists to present a chamber music recital.

UNI School of Music faculty artist Sean Botkin and guest cellist Hannah Holman presented a recital in September as well. Visiting artist Mark Baldwin, trumpet, collaborated with Jon Warfel, piano, to present a recital. Baldwin joined the Rockford Symphony Orchestra in 1980 and has held the position of Principal Trumpet since 1984. He also plays Principal Trumpet with the Wheaton Symphony, the Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra and the Rockford Wind Ensemble, and has performed with the Lyric Opera of Chicago and the Grant Park Symphony. Baldwin collaborated with pianist Jon Warfel, faculty artist at North Central College.

Visiting artists Wolfgang David, violin, and David Gompper, piano, collaborated to present a recital. Austrian violinist Wolfgang David has performed in major halls such as Konzerthaus and Musikverein Hall Vienna, Carnegie Hall New York, Cerritos Center Los Angeles and more. David will collaborate with pianist David Gompper, a celebrated composer and performer who has worked professionally as pianist, conductor and composer throughout the United States and abroad.

Visiting artists Ashley Hall, trumpet, and Horacio Nuguid, piano, offered a recital. Ashley Hall has performed as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player in the U.S. and around the world. She holds the position of principal trumpet with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra and her 2012 highlights included solo tours in New Zealand and Korea with the Grace Orchestra. Hall collaborated with pianist Horacio Nuguid, UNI alum and celebrated performer and educator.

**October 2013**

As colder weather made its way to Cedar Falls, so did guest artist KROM to present a recital. The KROM Trio features Adam Kromelow, piano, Raviv Markovitz, bass and Jason Burger, drums. With their fresh, genre-crossing sound, the Adam Kromelow Trio is making a name for themselves as an up-and-coming force in today’s music scene. Unafraid to push boundaries, this ensemble creates music that reflects their affinity for rock and jazz music resulting in a sound that is powerful and unpredictable. This is event is free and open to the public.

A busy weekend was in store for us as UNI School of Music faculty artist Tina Su presented a performance and a series of workshops involving guest artist Jeff Nelsen, horn. Nelsen is best known as the hornist of the world famous Canadian Brass, with whom he toured and recorded for 8 years. As a horn soloist, he has performed concerti with orchestra, and
his uniquely engaging recitals on five continents. Jeff has performed with dozens of orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco, Houston, and National Symphonies, Philadelphia and Minnesota Orchestras, and the Canadian and New York City Opera Companies.

A week later visiting artists Michael Norsworthy, clarinet, and David Gompper, piano, collaborated to present a recital. Michael Norsworthy’s virtuosity and unique voice on the clarinet have made him a sought after soloist and chamber music collaborator and garnered praise from critics and audiences around the globe. Michael collaborated with pianist David Gompper, a celebrated composer and performer who has worked professionally as pianist, conductor and composer throughout the United States and abroad.

The final day of October and first day of November welcomed visiting artist Karel Keldermans. Keldermans offered a recital performance from the campanile carillon at noon on both days. Karel Keldermans is one of the preeminent carilloneurs in North America. Over the past thirty years, he has given carillon concerts around the world. He was President of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America for five years and served on the Board of Directors for nine. He has released six solo carillon CDs as well as a duet CD with Belgian guitarist Wim Brioen. Karel has composed a dozen original works for carillon, as well as arranged numerous pieces for the instrument and has a Master’s degree from the University of Illinois in Carillon Performance and Campanology.

In November, guest artist Gergely Ittzés, flute, presented a master class for UNI flute students as well as a recital. Ittzés is flute professor at the Szechenyi University in Gyor, Hungary, and is a celebrated performer and lecturer throughout Europe, North-America, Brasil and China.

Featuring UNI School of Music faculty artist Julia Bullard and guest artists violinst Susanna Klein, and cellist Hannah Holman, Trio 826 presented a recital and a hands-on workshop for UNI students.

As February began, the Brass Quintet from the United States Marine Band, San Diego, presented a concert. The Brass Quintet has an extensive repertoire, including standard classical literature, Dixieland favorites, and even pop hits from the ‘80s.

The Beta Nu Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and the UNI School of Music held the 59th Annual Tallcorn Jazz Festival and 63rd Sinfonian Dimensions in Jazz Concert on February 21 and 22 on the UNI campus. Nachito Herrera, salsa pianist, was the featured guest artist at this year’s event. For more on Herrera, see page 10.

Wrapping up February, visiting artist Kevin Sanders presented a tuba recital with UNI faculty artist Robin Guy, piano. Sanders joined the faculty of the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music at the University of Memphis in the fall of 2008. Sanders has been a performer and clinician in Europe, Asia, and North and South America. He has performed with the American Brass Quintet, Memphis Symphony, New Mexico Symphony, Macau Orchestra (China), Spoleto USA Festival Orchestra, New World Symphony, Chicago Civic Orchestra, and the Jeunesse Musicales World Orchestra for their North American and European tours. Sanders released his debut solo CD in the fall of 2013.

Visiting artist Dylan Chmura-Moore presented a trombone recital in the beginning of March. Dylan Chmura-Moore is Assistant Professor of Music at University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, and is a performer and advocate of music written today. Dylan has had a voice in the premieres of numerous compositions and is an active solo, chamber, and orchestral musician. He recently has performed with Madison Symphony Orchestra, Green Bay Symphony Orchestra, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra, Dal Niente, Con Vivo!, and Isthmus Brass.

A unique opportunity for our students, visiting artist Peter Hamlin presented a concert titled “Electronic Music Mayhem”. Peter Hamlin teaches theory, electronic music and composition at Middlebury College in Vermont. He is an active composer who has written numerous works for orchestra, band, choir, chamber ensembles, solo instruments, solo voice, music theater, and electronic media.
Our trombone students especially enjoyed a recital given by visiting ensemble Corpus Trombone Quartet. The Corpus Trombone Quartet (András Süt, Péter Pálinkás, Máté Véér, Róbert Káip), formed in 2001, when the members were students at the Franz Liszt Academy, has won numerous chamber music competitions including the Philip Jones International Chamber Music and ITF Trombone Quartet Competitions in 2003, as well as making numerous appearances on Hungarian radio and television. Founding member Csaba Wagner has since gone on to become Principal Bass Trombone with Deutsche Oper, Berlin, whilst Máté Véér released his own solo CD in 2006, as well as winning the Donald Yaxley Bass Trombone competition at the 2006 ITF.

April 2014

Our final month of the 2013-14 performance season was a busy month, starting on April Fool’s Day with visiting artist Daniel Grabois who presented a horn master class and a recital. Grabois is Assistant Professor of Horn at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Music. The former Chair of the Department of Contemporary Performance at the Manhattan School of Music, he is the hornist in the Meridian Arts Ensemble, a sextet of brass and percussion soon to celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary. With Meridian, he has performed over fifty world premieres, released ten CD’s, received two ASCAP/CMA Adventuresome Programming Awards, and toured worldwide, in addition to recording or performing with rock legends Duran Duran and Natalie Merchant and performing the music of Frank Zappa for the composer himself.

Visting artist Idit Shner presented a saxophone recital. An active performer of both jazz and classical music, Idit has played in various distinguished venues in the United States and abroad, such as The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and Lincoln Center in New York. Currently, Shner plays with her jazz quartet in Eugene and Portland, Oregon. Her latest project involves nursery rhymes and ancient melodies from the Jewish liturgy performed in a jazz setting.

Though we received an inch of snow in April, it did not keep visiting artist Sandor Ostlund from presenting a double bass recital with faculty artist Polina Khatsko, piano. Ostlund is Associate Professor of Double Bass at Baylor University and is an active and versatile performer and pedagogue. He has an eclectic musical background that includes solo, chamber, orchestral, early music, studio, jazz, and new music performances.

For the final guest artist event of the year, Michael Krajewski, guitar, presented a recital. Krajewski earned his Bachelors of Music at Berklee College of Music (1998) in Professional Music and Master of Music at Georgia State University (2007) in Jazz Studies, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree with a secondary area in Music Education at the University of Minnesota (2013). Michael is on the guitar faculty at Minnesota State University Moorhead, and at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota, and maintains an active private studio in Woodbury, MN.

Guest artist funds for 2013-2014 were supported in part or in full by the Dorothea and Robert W. Dean Visiting Artist Fund, the Esther Bley Rinker Endowment for Musical Excellence, Spotlight Series patrons, the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences and the UNI School of Music. The School of Music continues to extend its gratitude for these contributions.

School of Music faculty artist and professor at the University of Northern Iowa Rebecca Burkhardt was invited to conduct the Chengdu Symphony Orchestra in Chengdu, China.

Burkhardt visited China from November 11-16 where she conducted an all-Mendelssohn program featuring Symphony No. 4 as well as a violin concerto.

Burkhardt continues to celebrate an exceptionally creative year, having led the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra on their tour of Brazil in March 2014 (see page 5). Burkhardt has also devoted time to the continued work on her original musical “Just Ann” including a staged reading/singing held at UNI in May 2013.
The UNI Panther Marching Band will spend fall 2014 preparing for a tour to London, England. On March 26, conductor and band director Danny Galyen formally accepted the invitation to perform at the London New Year’s Day Parade. Galyen appeared on stage in the Great Hall at the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center along with the Lord Mayor of the City of Westminster Councillor Duncan Sandys and Robert C. Bone, Executive Director of the London Parade Festival.

Panther Marching Band to Perform in London New Year’s Day Parade

The University of Northern Iowa Panther Marching Band is the largest student organization on campus, and is currently the largest band in university history with 280 members, after experiencing 6 straight years of growth in enrollment. The students of the Panther Marching Band come from 79 different majors on campus and perform five energetic field shows each season for audiences in the UNI Dome and across the region. With a history beginning in 1892, the band’s tradition of excellence has spanned 122 years and generations of dedicated band members to make the UNI Band one of the most exciting bands in the Midwestern United States.

London’s New Year’s Day Parade is supported by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and boasts a list of active patrons and supporters including the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, The Prime Minister of Great Britain and the Lord Mayor of the City of Westminster. The New Year’s Day Parade is the largest event of its kind in the world with over 8,000 participants performing for a street audience of over half a million people and a worldwide television audience approaching three hundred million.

For more information on the Panther Marching Band, visit www.uni.edu/music/marchingband.

Faculty Spotlight: Robin Guy

Robin Guy accepts the formal invitation from Lord Mayor Duncan Sandys

Robin Guy, Professor of Piano/ Collaborative Piano and Chair of the Keyboard Division, has been devoting hundreds of hours of time to collaborating with students, guest and faculty artists as a pianist at UNI. Robin is beginning her 25th year at UNI this fall.

Guy, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, began studying the piano at age five with her mother. She went on to study privately with Marilyn Matousek Montie at the Cleveland Institute of Music and George Cherry at Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory where she earned the B.M.E. She earned the M.M. at Baylor University, studying with Jane Abbott-Kirk and the D.M.A. at the University of Arizona where she studied with composer-pianist Richard Faith.

As a soloist, she has performed concerti with orchestras and ensembles in Ohio, Michigan, Arizona, Minnesota, and Iowa, most recently performing with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. As a collaborative pianist, she has performed with such notables as Henry Charles Smith, Eric Ruske, Tom Bacon, Dan Perantoni, Jean Rife, Denis Brott, Phillipa Davies, and Georgina Dobree, and has toured for Affiliate Artists of New York. Guest appearances have included Russia, A Prairie Home Companion with Garrison Keillor, and several International Festivals in Brazil and Ecuador. She can be heard on six compact disc recordings produced by Vienna Modern Masters, Albany, Capstone, and Mark Records. Her latest release was with Trio Ariana, a soprano-violà-piano ensemble with which she tours regularly; a new release with soprano colleague Jean McDonald will occur shortly.

Dr. Guy has served at UNI since 1990. She previously served on the piano faculties of the University of Arizona, Grand Canyon University, and Brewton-Parker College. She regularly spends her summers performing and teaching piano at the world-famous Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan.
The School of Music always loves to hear from our graduates. Success stories, new projects and career or performance highlights are all welcome and celebrated. Please take a moment to check out what your former classmates and fellow alumni have been up to recently!

1950s
‘50 Ted Herbst, BA, Germantown, WI, is retired and enjoying golf, travel and a summer home on Lake Thompson in Rhinelander, WI.

‘53 Ray Holtz, BA, MA ’60, Ashland, OR, was a member of UNI Jazz I, taught instrumental music for 29 years and was a certified financial planner for 21 years. He recently formed and conducts a 17-piece jazz orchestra, performing in many venues and backing Frank Ricci, who sang in Las Vegas for many years.

‘54 Wanda (Zahnen) Larson, BA, Sturgis, SD, has retired from teaching private voice and piano lessons, but stays active in music by serving as pianist for church services in Sturgis, SD. She spends her free time traveling to visit her children and grandchildren.

‘56 Patricia Peterson, BA, Fort Collins, CO, is retired from piano teaching, daycare and raising five children.

‘59 Chuck Mandernach, BA, Dallas, TX, recently attended a reunion of Iowa State Teachers College (ISTC, now UNI) graduates from the 1950’s and 1960’s. The group met up in Boone, IA, and included Mandernach, Homer Gartz ’62, Dave Richardson ’62, Hal Holmstrom ’60, Warren Erickson ’59, Arlene (Dighton) Williams ’60 and former UNI faculty member Jon Hansen, ’61, MA ’65.

1970s
‘70 Charles Bissinger, BA, ’71, has maintained an active musical life since graduation. He recently appeared as soloist at March Chapel, Boston University, and has performed in several local theatre and choral productions. He is retired and living in Phoenix, AZ, and sends warm wishes to his fellow UNI Concert Choir members from 1966-1970.

‘71 Steven Ainsworth, BA, MA ’75, Wilson, NC, is beginning his 43rd year of teaching. He is assistant administrator and band director at Wilson Christian Academy.

‘74 Mary (Heffner) Oelmann, BA, MA ’91, Greene, IA, retired after 15 years as elementary principal and curriculum director at North Butler Community School District.

‘77 Scott Davis, BA, Des Moines, IA, retired June 2012 after 32 years in public education, finishing at East High School in Des Moines. He is an active musician in the Des Moines area with Freestyle Variety Band and the Scott Davis Jazz Quartet, and was inducted into the Community Jazz Center Hall of Fame in October 2012.

‘77 Gayle Rose, BA, Memphis, TN, appeared with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra in fall 2013. Rose performed as narrator in Aaron Copland’s “Lincoln Portrait” at a September Masterworks concert. Rose also serves as chairwoman of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra board of directors.

‘78 Dalene (Smith) O’Brien, BM, Boone, IA, retired from Boone Middle School in 2013 after a 34-year teaching career as a band director. She will continue to be active with church music and the Iowa Bandmasters, having served as a mentor, judge, honor band conductor and Major Landers Scholarship coordinator.

1980s
‘85 Debra (Bruhn) Hedden, MA, EdD ’97, Lawrence, KS, was selected for the prestigious Fulbright Specialist Roster. She is currently director of music education and associate professor of music education and music therapy at the University of Kansas.

1990s
‘91 Carson Holloway, BA, Omaha, NE, is currently serving as an associate professor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Holloway received the 2013 Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award.

‘94 JC Sanford, BA, Decorah, IA, released a CD titled “Views from the Inside” with his 15-piece orchestra, JC Sanford Orchestra. Sanford is a trombonist, composer and conductor and received an Aaron Copland Fund 2014 Recording Program grant.

2000s
‘01 Nicole (Birkland) Long, BM, MM ’06, Pleasant Hill, CA, recently completed a 2-year residency at Opera San Jose where she performed a total of eight roles in the last two seasons. She also signed with Uzan International Artists of New York City and placed 3rd in the Irene Dalis Competition in May 2014 in San Jose, California. Nicole will be covering three roles at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City in the 2014-15 season: Sonyetka in Lady Macbeth of Mtensk by Shostakovich; Giulietta in Les contes d’Hoffmann by Offenbach and Baba the Turk in The Rake’s Progress by Stravinsky.

‘03 Carmelita (Tyson) Guse, MA, MM ’08, Minneapolis, MN, is an adjunct voice professor at North Central University. She is also a member of the Bravo Singers, a group that performs opera education programs for elementary schools in the Twin Cities area.

‘88 Mark Walters, BA, Jacksonville, NC, appeared in opera productions in Arizona, Alabama, Idaho, Wisconsin and Toronto, Canada. Walter was featured as soloist with the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, the Lima (OH) Symphony Orchestra and at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC. He will appear with Seattle Opera in the title role of Don Giovanni in fall 2014.

University of Northern Iowa
‘04 Dale Bazan, MM, Lincoln, NE, was promoted to associate professor of practice in music education at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. He has published research and is also a reviewer for several peer reviewed journals. In July 2014 he presented several papers at the Biennial World Conference of the International Society for Music Education in Brazil.

‘04 Benjamin Klemme, BM, Saint Paul, MN, was appointed assistant conductor by the Quad City Symphony Orchestra. His duties include serving as music director of the Quad City Symphony Youth Ensembles and bringing classical music to young audiences as director of educational engagement. He will conduct pops and family concerts, and serve as cover conductor for all subscription programs. He will continue to serve as Concert Orchestra Conductor for the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies.

‘06 Brenda Liddle, BM, Waterloo, IA, teaches Zumba at the YMCA as well as full-time orchestra in the Waterloo Community School District.

‘08 Stephen Fish, BM, Mercer Island, WA, made his role debut with Seattle Opera in November 2013. In fall 2014, he will appear in “Les Contes D’Hoffmann” with the Seattle Opera Company.

‘08 Jenny (Thompson) Poehls, MM, Fargo, ND, has served as lecturer of flute at North Dakota State University since 2010 and performs with the NDSU Faculty Woodwind Quintet. She is also a collaborative pianist for both student and professional musicians and maintains a private piano and flute studio in the Fargo Moorhead area.

‘08 Ryan Middagh, BM, Nashville, TN, was recently appointed Director of Jazz Studies at Vanderbilt University. In 2013, Middagh performed with the Cab Calloway Orchestra and released the album “Colorado Brew: featuring Jeff Coffin and Tom Giampietro”. Middagh toured China in 2014 with the Downbeat award-winning UNC Jazz Lab Band One and is endorsed by Conn-Selmer as a Yanagisawa artist.


‘09 Danny White, BM, Bettendorf, IA, served as the associate conductor for the national tour of Beauty and the Beast in 2013-14. White was also invited to conduct the international tour of the production, but declined in order to attend the Cincinnati Conservatory Masters in Orchestral Conducting program. White will focus on Musical Theatre conducting during his studies in the highly competitive masters program.

2010s

‘11 Michael Conrad, BM, Waterloo, IA, became co-director of bands at Waterloo West High School in 2013, after receiving an MM in Jazz Composition and Arranging from Eastman School of Music in May 2013, where he was nominated for the Teaching Assistantship Prize, and received the Ray Wright Prize and the Jack L. Frank Teaching Award. In addition to performances and presentations, he was commissioned by West Point Army Jazz Knights, Penfield Music Commission Project, CNY Jazz, and the New York Youth Symphony Jazz Band Classic, and released a CD entitled COLOSSUS in June 2013.

‘12 Isaac Brockshus, BM, Columbia, SC, served as composer for original music used in a promotional video recorded and developed for the University of South Carolina.

‘12 James Healy, BM, Dunkerton, IA, is director of vocal music for grades 5-12 in Dunkerton Schools. He recently returned to campus with his students for the fall 2013 UNI Vocal Arts Festival.

‘13 Ashley Smith, MM, Iowa City, IA, is Band Director at West Liberty High School. Under her direction, the West Liberty marching band earned a Division 1 rating at the Iowa High School Music Association (IHSMA) Marching Band Contest in October 2013.

‘13 Alexander Steines, BM, Albia, IA, is choral director at Albia Community Schools, directing junior high and high school choirs and teaching 5th and 6th grade general music. On October 12, 2013 his concert choir sang the national anthem for the season home opener of the Iowa Wild Hockey at Wells Fargo Arena.

Marriages

‘01 Nicole (Birkland) Long, BM, MM ‘06, married Gary Long on July 12, 2014.

‘10 Tracy (Chapman) Reif, BM, married Andrew “Bill” Reif, BM ‘10, on May 24, 2013.

‘11 Jeremiah Landon, BME, Fort Madison, IA, married Reba Landon on June 7, 2014.

Thank you

Thank you to all who e-mailed or wrote to Alumni News. If you wish to contribute to the next issue, please complete and return the form in the center of this magazine. We look forward to hearing from you!

We were sad to hear of the passing of our past graduates and friends. We send our sympathies to their families.

Martha Holvik, former School of Music faculty, friend and Suzuki School founder died July 10 in Cedar Falls, IA.

‘39 James Dycus, BA, died December 10 in Hammond, IN.

‘50 Gwen (Eppard) Ketchum, BA, died April 9 in Cerritos, CA.

‘51 Lavaughn (Kindwall) Penner, BA, died May 8 in Dallas, OR.

‘52 Sonia (Scholl) Wilson, BA, died December 2 in Iowa City, IA.

Thank you to Bonnie Farland for assistance in gathering information for this article.
Alumni Spotlight: Jeff Kirkpatrick and Laurie Hoeppner

The School of Music is always proud to hear about the success and accomplishments of our alumni. We are especially proud of Jeff Kirkpatrick and Laurie Hoeppner for their remarkable achievements as music educators.

Jeff Kirkpatrick is in his twenty-second year as Director of Senior High Bands at Osage. Prior to this position, he taught five years as Director of grades 5-8 bands in Osage and two and a half years as Director of bands at Rockwell-Swaledale Community Schools. Jeff has held various leadership positions for the North Central Iowa Bandmasters Association and has served as chair of the IBA Concert Band Affairs committee. Jeff performs with several different groups in the North Iowa area, including the Mason City Municipal Band, the North Iowa Jazz Coalition Big Band, and the North Iowa Symphony Orchestra.

“I had a great experience at UNI that prepared me to be successful teaching music,” Jeff noted. “I really appreciate my applied teacher, Fritz Kaenzig, as he believed in me and cultivated my passion for making music. I learned a great deal from all the teachers in the School of Music that I drew on in my teaching. In fact, these teachers continue to be a great resource for me when I have questions.”

Laurie Hoeppner received her Bachelor of Science in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin, Platteville, and her Masters Degree in Bassoon performance from UNI. She began her teaching career in the Waterloo Community Schools teaching middle school band and orchestra for two years. She is completing her twenty-second year teaching music in Osage. Currently Laurie teaches 5-6 band and will begin her fourth year as high school choir director.

Laurie has been President of the Osage Education Association and has served as chairperson of the Osage School Transformation Team. Laurie also serves on the adjunct faculty for Waldorf College and North Iowa Area Community College.

“I worked as orchestra assistant to Dr. Burkhardt [at UNI] and that proved to be a very growing experience for me musically and personally. I had opportunity to perform in many ensembles under many conductors, which helped me also grow as a musician. My bassoon teacher, Dr. Rachor, was a wonderful teacher and helped me grow to be a better bassoon player. Many faculty members at UNI rounded out my musical experience and education there, I am grateful to have had the opportunities I did while I attended UNI.”

Jeff and Laurie are looking forward to celebrating their nineteen-year wedding anniversary this year and – when they’re not teaching or making music – they enjoy spending time with their two beagles, Harry and Charlie.

Donor Spotlight: Marleta Matheson

The UNI School of Music wishes to acknowledge one of our extraordinary donors this year. Marleta Matheson is an outstanding supporter of music at UNI and has created a lasting legacy.

Marleta Matheson served as a staff accompanist, taught a piano accompanying course, and was head of Group Piano on the faculty of the UNI School of Music from 1964 to 1990. She also was a keyboardist for the wcfsymphony, worked with UNI Suzuki School students, and was actively engaged with the Young Artists’ Concerts for the Hearst Center for the Arts.

Marleta received her bachelor’s degree from Simpson College and a Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan.

Marleta taught public school music for two years in Fairfield before arriving in Cedar Falls. During her career at UNI, Marleta spent countless hours teaching, practicing, rehearsing, and performing for students, faculty, guest artists, and community organizations. She has served as a member of the Cedar Falls Rotary Club for more than 30 years and served as Advisory Board Member and Hospitality Coordinator for the inaugural Midwest International Piano Competition at UNI. Marleta, along with her late husband Charles, received the Howard V. Jones Leadership and Philanthropy in the Arts award in 2008. In 2012, Marleta was inducted into the UNI School of Music Hall of Fame, due to her untiring and extremely dedicated service to so many musicians over the years.

According to John Vallentine, Director of the School of Music, “Marleta Matheson has been an incredible supporter of the School of Music. As our graduates and faculty know, she accompanied a multitude of recitals for decades and was known for her incredible artistry and skill as a pianist, collaborator and dedicated faculty member. Marleta and her late husband, emeritus professor Charles, established a scholarship and development endowment for the School of Music which has benefited students for many years with tuition and travel support. Marleta Matheson’s contributions have made a significant impact on the School of Music.”

In addition to the Charles and Marleta Matheson award (awarded annually at the Performance Competition Finals Spotlight Series concert), Marleta is also a long time supporter of the School of Music Scholarship Benefit Concert and was a foundation donor to the Russell Hall renovation and expansion project.

The School of Music wishes to congratulate Jeff and Laurie on their continued success and extends warmest thanks to Marleta for her continued support.

University of Northern Iowa
Spotlight Series
CONCERTS 2014-2015

WIND SYMPHONY & SYMPHONIC BAND
Ronald Johnson and
S. Daniel Galyen, conductors
Friday, October 3, 2014
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

NORTHERN IOWA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Rebecca Burkhardt, conductor
Thursday, October 23, 2014
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

CONCERT CHORALE
John Len Wiles, conductor
Thursday, October 30, 2014
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

JAZZ BAND ONE
Chris Merz, conductor
Wednesday, November 5, 2014
7:30 p.m., Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

INSTRUMENTAL CONCERTO

COMPOSITION FINALS
Dmitri Vorobiev, coordinator
Wednesday, November 12, 2014
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

CHIMES OF CHRISTMAS
FEATURING UNI CHORAL ENSEMBLES
Tuesday, December 9, 2014
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

NORTHERN IOWA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Rebecca Burkhardt, conductor
Tuesday, February 17, 2015
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

PERFORMANCE
COMPOSITION FINALS
Heather Peyton, coordinator
Wednesday, April 8, 2015
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

WIND SYMPHONY, UNI SINGERS & CONCERT CHORALE
Ronald Johnson, conductor
Friday, April 17, 2015
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

UNI VARSITY MEN’S GLEE CLUB
John Len Wiles, conductor
Monday, April 20, 2015
7:30 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

UNI CHILDREN’S CHOIR
Michelle Swanson, conductor
Thursday, April 30, 2015
7 p.m., Great Hall, GBPAC

Tickets for individual concerts are $10 – adults, $9 – senior citizens, $8 – non-UNI students. UNI School of Music is proud to offer free admission for UNI students with a current ID, thanks to the Panther Pass program.

Tickets are available by calling (319) 273-4TIX or visiting www.unitix.uni.edu. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.
For more information, call (319) 273-2022.

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