Fall 2012

Rhythms: Music at the University of Northern Iowa, v31, Fall 2012

University of Northern Iowa. School of Music.

Recommended Citation
University of Northern Iowa. School of Music., "Rhythms: Music at the University of Northern Iowa, v31, Fall 2012" (2012). Rhythms: Music at the University of Northern Iowa. 5.
https://scholarworks.uni.edu/musicnews/5
In this issue
School of Music Celebrates 50 years at Russell Hall, 120 Years on Campus
Music Ensembles Tour Italy, Germany and Austria
Professor Sean Botkin Performs with Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Greetings from the University of Northern Iowa! During this academic year, the School of Music is celebrating its 120th anniversary at UNI and 50 years of music-making in Russell Hall. Our theme, “The Road to Excellence,” gives us an opportunity to look back at our tremendous history and growth, while at the same time looking forward to new possibilities for our students. With record enrollments in the school, we find ourselves at the crossroads of our development at the university. It is time to build on our rich tradition of music education excellence and trumpet (pun intended) our students’ and faculty members’ many successes. If we are to continue to attract the best musicians and scholars, we ask our students, friends and alumni to assist us as we continue our future development, while not forgetting those from our memorable past. Spread the word along with us and celebrate the arts with renewed spirit as we enter the next stage of our history.

From the Director ................................................................. 3

Sean Botkin performs at Ravinia .................................................. 4
School of Music Celebrates 120 years ............................................. 5
Requiem performance in Marshalltown ........................................ 7
Jazz Division News .................................................................. 8
School of Music Reaccreditation .................................................. 9
New Faculty ............................................................................. 9
Scholarship Benefit Concert ......................................................... 10
Community Outreach ................................................................. 12
Opera at UNI .......................................................................... 13
Guest Artists 2011-2012 ............................................................... 16
Faculty Spotlight .................................................................... 18
Faculty News and Activities ......................................................... 19
Emeritus Faculty News ............................................................... 21
Alumni News and Updates .......................................................... 22
Alumni Spotlight ..................................................................... 25
Donor Spotlight ...................................................................... 26

In this issue...

Wind Symphony Tour and Thirtieth Anniversary Celebration ................. 6
Glee Club Tours Germany and Austria .................................................... 7
Student Awards and Honors ............................................................. 14

Also...

From the Director ................................................................. 3

Sean Botkin performs at Ravinia .................................................. 4
School of Music Celebrates 120 years ............................................. 5
Requiem performance in Marshalltown ........................................ 7
Jazz Division News .................................................................. 8
School of Music Reaccreditation .................................................. 9
New Faculty ............................................................................. 9
Scholarship Benefit Concert .......................................................... 10
Community Outreach ................................................................. 12
Opera at UNI .......................................................................... 13
Guest Artists 2011-2012 ............................................................... 16
Faculty Spotlight .................................................................... 18
Faculty News and Activities ......................................................... 19
Emeritus Faculty News ............................................................... 21
Alumni News and Updates .......................................................... 22
Alumni Spotlight ..................................................................... 25
Donor Spotlight ...................................................................... 26

Student musicians continue to excel as performers and educators.
Above, UNI Suzuki School

One of the most significant aspects of the culture of the UNI School of Music is the ability of professors to to serve as tremendous musicians, scholars and role models, while at the same time focusing on exceptional educational experiences for our students. The concepts of striving for the highest standards of musicianship, demonstrating a can-do attitude in the classroom, studio or rehearsal hall, and continuing to dream are alive and well. One of the highlights for the School of Music this year included faculty member Sean Botkin’s performance with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO). While I could write numerous paragraphs on the successful activities of each faculty member—in fact you will see those later in this newsletter—Sean’s performance with the CSO really reached a pinnacle milestone of his career. Such a performance serves as a reminder of the quality of faculty members teaching in the school, demonstrates to our students that we believe in the highest standards of achievement, and represents to the public that we are moving forward with intended musical gusto.
Milestones: Stepping Stones on the Path to Excellence

Professor Sean Botkin performs with Chicago Symphony Orchestra

School of Music celebrates 50 years at Russell Hall, 120 years on campus

The University of Northern Iowa School of Music is celebrating 50 years of making music in Russell Hall. The original dedication ceremony for the building was held on May 6, 1962. It featured a performance by the Symphony Orchestra and the A Cappella Choir with the cantata “Blind with Rainbows,” with lyrics by English faculty member James Heath and music by faculty member William Latham. Also included in the ceremony was a march written by Edward Kurtz, former head of the Department of Music.

While excellence in music education has been consistent since the doors first opened, Russell Hall has undergone a major transformation in recent years. In 2008, the newly renovated $10.3 million home to the School of Music reopened its doors. New features include a chamber music hall, jazz studios, an instrument technology laboratory, Renovated features include updated studios, classrooms and practice rooms. Students at UNI continue to call the hall “the music building,” as it was known back in the ’60s.

“Russell Hall has been an important home to our classes, applied lessons, performances, workshops, master classes, rehearsals and more,” noted John Valentine, director of the School of Music. “As we look back into the history of making music at UNI, the building has allowed our students and faculty to flourish. It is now a state-of-the-art facility, allowing students to learn and perform great music.”

2012 marks another milestone for the School of Music: the 120th anniversary of the School of Music itself. When UNI was founded in 1876, then known as the Iowa State Normal School, courses in art and music were offered in the Art Department. This department name persisted until 1892, when the school began to go through its first major differentiation of subject matter and department reorganization.

In 1892, the Art Department split into the Penmanship and Drawing Department and the Vocal and Instrumental Music Department. Thus, the first form of what is now a thriving School of Music came to be. In honor of the milestone, the 2012-13 Spotlight Series will be the “120th Anniversary Spotlight Series: Celebrating the 120th Anniversary of the UNI School of Music” and the 31st Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert will be themed “120 Years: The Road to Excellence.” For details on the anniversary celebration concerts in the Spotlight Series or the Scholarship Benefit Concert, see pages 10 and 27.

Editor’s note: Special thanks to Gerald Peterson and to Rod Library Special Collections and University Archives for information used in this article.

The original dedication ceremony for the UNI School of Music: the 120th anniversary of the UNI School of Music. www.uni.edu/music | 5

Russell Hall in 1962

Updated exterior of Russell Hall in 2012

4 | Rhythms | Fall 2012

University of Northern Iowa

School of Music
Wind Symphony Tours Italy and Celebrates 30th Anniversary

It was a full and exciting year for the Northern Iowa Wind Symphony. The Wind Symphony traveled to northern Italy March 8-17, and was invited to perform a series of six concerts throughout the region with concert sites in San Paolo d’Argon, Alzano Lombardo (Bergamo), Pontevico, Brescia, Costa Volpino and Arse (Milan). Concert venues included the PalaBrescia in Brescia, the Teatro Parrocchiale in Arese and the Basilica di San Martino in Alzano Lombardo. Faculty artists John Hines, bass, and Amanda McCandless, clarinet, joined the group on tour and performed on all six concerts. The group, under the direction of UNI School of Music professor and conductor Ronald Johnson, previously toured Italy in 2004 and has taken three tours in Hungary. Reflecting on the trip Johnson noted, “It was quite an experience for the students to perform for full houses and enthusiastic audiences, to be received with so much applause, asking for encores. This was a great testament to the talent and abilities of our students.”

While in Italy, the Wind Symphony served as the ensemble for a two-day intensive conducting workshop with several of northern Italy’s most esteemed band conductors. The ensemble was also presented with an honorary diploma by the President of the Luca Marenzio Conservatory of Music in Brescia, one of the most prestigious of Italy’s music institutions. Senior music student and clarinetist in the Wind Symphony, James Gummert commented, “This tour taught us a lot about each other and the world. While the language barrier was a struggle, the connection we made was an extraordinary one—we communicated through music.”

Upon their return from Europe, Johnson and the ensemble began preparations for the return of more than 40 Wind Symphony members for the 30th Anniversary Celebration and Reunion, held April 20-21. Wind Symphony members who had graduated from 1980 to 2008 returned to enjoy a banquet and reception, as well as to rehearse and perform in concert under the baton of Johnson. Rebecca Wilson, a returning alumna, reflected, “I always felt grateful to be able to play with the Wind Symphony. Even though I wasn’t a music major, I loved being a part of such a wonderful group of musicians. [Johnson] was a very strong conductor and I liked that he held us responsible for our commitment and professionalism.”

The two-day celebration was a time of music-making and reflecting on the group itself as well as its long-time conductor. Wind Symphony alumna Cheri Schreibman echoed the thoughts that many shared throughout the weekend, “Ron Johnson encouraged me to go places I had never thought of and to dream dreams that sustain me in my everyday life. I am eternally grateful for all the advice, both professional and personal, and for the music I was allowed to experience along the way.”

Editor’s note: If you are a Wind Symphony alumna member and could not attend the April 2012 reunion, but would like an electronic copy of the memory book created for the event, please contact Caroline.Boehmer@uni.edu

Varsity Men’s Glee Club Tours Germany and Austria

The UNI Varsity Men’s Glee Club launched a thrilling tour to Germany and Austria this spring. The group of students and alumni traveled through Munich, Salzburg, Vienna and more on their 10-day adventure, enjoying the sights, sounds and culture of Germany and Austria. Notably, the group was offered the honor of performing at Salzburg Cathedral (Dom) and St. Stephen’s Cathedral in Vienna.

In addition to the extraordinary performance opportunities, the Glee Club members were immersed in the culture of Germany and Austria. On their first full day in Germany, the group made a meaningful visit to Dachau, Nazi Germany’s first concentration camp. In the following days, the group visited King Ludwig II’s Neuschwanstein Castle and St. Peter’s Church and churchyard in Salzburg. The tour also stopped to see the Parliament Building and State Opera House of Vienna, as well as the Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens.

The men on tour were thrilled to be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Dylan Keller, junior history and political communications double major, came back with a passion for travel. “Being a part of the UNI Varsity Men’s Glee Club, it was an amazing opportunity to experience the origins of classical music in Salzburg and Vienna. If students have the opportunity to travel or are on the fence about leaving the comforts of Iowa, I would encourage them to go for the adventure. Once you sing in a cathedral that is more than 800 years old... you cannot reach a greater moment in your life at this age.”

Reflecting on the tour, Glee Club member and UNI freshwater English education major Jacob Farguson stated, “The histories of music and of World War II now mean so much more to me than something that I read in a textbook. This trip helped to bring the history to life.”

The Glee Club plans to continue its tradition of camaraderie and excellence with the Christmas variety shows scheduled for Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 this year. Please visit the Glee Club website for more information at www.unigleeclub.com.

Editor’s note: Thank you to John Wiles, Dylan Keller and Jacob Farguson for their contributions to this article.

School of Music Ensembles Offer Shared Concert in Marshalltown, Perform “Requiem”

The Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, UNI Concert Chorale, UNI Singers, UNI Cantorei and faculty artists toured to Marshalltown, Iowa, on April 23 to present a concert in the Marshalltown High School/Community Auditorium. The ensembles were led by UNI faculty and conductors Rebecca Burkhardt, Ryan Heyer and John Wiles.

One hundred ninety-five UNI School of Music faculty and students were involved in this joint performance. In addition to the UNI ensembles, the concert also featured Marshalltown High School Orchestra and Marshalltown High School Concert Choir.

The performance featured a combined performance of Marshalltown High School Concert Chorale and UNI Concert Chorale, and combined performance of the Marshalltown High School and UNI orchestras, as well as a performance of W.A. Mozart’s seminal work “Requiem” by combined UNI choirs and the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra.

This concert was made possible by the Mayme Ward Olson Music Endowment Fund.

The Marshalltown performance was offered in advance of the UNI ensembles’ home concert on April 25 where School of Music ensembles collaborated to present W.A. Mozart’s “Requiem” in concert. The home concert featured more than 150 musicians including the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, UNI Concert Chorale, UNI Singers, UNI Cantorei and UNI School of Music faculty artists Tom Barry, oboe; Amanda McCandless, clarinet; David Rachor, bassoon; Yo-Ting Su, horn; and Hunter Capoccioni, contrabass.

From L to R: Aiddy Phomvisay (Marshalltown High School principal), Rhonda Swick (granddaughter of Mayme Ward Olson), Diane Curtis (UNI Foundation) and John Valentine (directors, UNI School of Music)
Stories of Jazz Studies

his was one of outstanding musical achievement in the UNI School of Music Jazz Division.

Jazz Band One’s release “Let Go” was met with critical acclaim. Reviewer Jack Bowser from “FAll About Jazz” magazine stated, “Let Go” is clearly another triumph for UNI’s impressive Jazz Band One, much of the credit for which must go to Merz who has kept the Jazz Studies program on an upward course since he replaced its founder, Bob Washut, nearly a decade ago. If the past is a reliable measuring stick, another exemplary album by the UNI Jazz Band One should be available in another year or so.”

The jazz performance season opened with a Jazz Combos concert on Oct. 4, followed by Jazz Panthers concerts on Oct. 6 and Nov. 17 with Jazz Band III joining them for the latter. Jazz Band One performed on Oct. 7 and Nov. 4.

The jazz performance season continued in the fall with the annual stellar Tallcorn Jazz Festival, including the latter. Jazz Band One, much of the credit for which must go to Merz who has kept the Jazz Studies program on an upward course since he replaced its founder, Bob Washut, nearly a decade ago. If the past is a reliable measuring stick, another exemplary album by the UNI Jazz Band One should be available in another year or so.”

After his graduation from UNI (then Iowa State Teachers College), Milt pursued a dual career of teaching and professional performance. Milt’s career as a music educator included positions in Arlington, DeBlin and Waterloo. During those years he also played in several area bands. He toured on the State Fair/Canadian Provincial Exposition circuit and played lead trumpet for many nationally known personalities. In 1970, Milt formed his own band, The Rhythm Club, featuring several musicians from the UNI Jazz Program. Milt retired from teaching in 1986. He became a registered piano tuner with the Piano Technicians Guild and managed his own tuning and repair business while continuing to play trumpet professionally. Milt presently performs with the UNI New Horizons Band and conducted his hometown band for the twenty-third consecutive summer in 2012. He and his wife Shirley celebrated their 61st anniversary in June, and have three children, eight grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

After the conclusion of the academic year, the UNI Jazz Combo Camp kept the music going through the summer. Campers hit campus June 17-22 for this hands-on experience. Now entering its 12th year, the UNI Jazz Combo Camp is an intensive exploration of small group jazz playing and improvisation. Students participate in daily combo rehearsals, group instruction on their instruments, theory and ear training classes, jam sessions and more. The camp featured performances by faculty and participants each night, and concluded with the final concert Friday, June 22.

Another successful year 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.

The jazz performance season opened with a Jazz Combos concert on Oct. 4, followed by Jazz Panthers concerts on Oct. 6 and Nov. 17 with Jazz Band III joining them for the latter. Jazz Band One performed on Oct. 7 and Nov. 4.

The jazz performance season continued in the fall with the annual stellar Tallcorn Jazz Festival, including the latter. Jazz Band One, much of the credit for which must go to Merz who has kept the Jazz Studies program on an upward course since he replaced its founder, Bob Washut, nearly a decade ago. If the past is a reliable measuring stick, another exemplary album by the UNI Jazz Band One should be available in another year or so.”

After his graduation from UNI (then Iowa State Teachers College), Milt pursued a dual career of teaching and professional performance. Milt’s career as a music educator included positions in Arlington, DeBlin and Waterloo. During those years he also played in several area bands. He toured on the State Fair/Canadian Provincial Exposition circuit and played lead trumpet for many nationally known personalities. In 1970, Milt formed his own band, The Rhythm Club, featuring several musicians from the UNI Jazz Program. Milt retired from teaching in 1986. He became a registered piano tuner with the Piano Technicians Guild and managed his own tuning and repair business while continuing to play trumpet professionally. Milt presently performs with the UNI New Horizons Band and conducted his hometown band for the twenty-third consecutive summer in 2012. He and his wife Shirley celebrated their 61st anniversary in June, and have three children, eight grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

After the conclusion of the academic year, the UNI Jazz Combo Camp kept the music going through the summer. Campers hit campus June 17-22 for this hands-on experience. Now entering its 12th year, the UNI Jazz Combo Camp is an intensive exploration of small group jazz playing and improvisation. Students participate in daily combo rehearsals, group instruction on their instruments, theory and ear training classes, jam sessions and more. The camp featured performances by faculty and participants each night, and concluded with the final concert Friday, June 22.

Another successful year 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.

The National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Commission on Accreditation has voted to approve the application and continue the University of Northern Iowa in good standing through 2021. The School of Music at UNI has been an institutional member of NASM since 1942. More than 340 music majors are enrolled in degree programs in the School of Music, along with hundreds of other UNI students who participate in more than 15 ensembles. UNI has the largest number of graduates serving as music educators in the state of Iowa.

NASM, founded in 1924, is an organization of schools, conservatories, colleges and universities with approximately 636 accredited institutional members. The major responsibility of the NASM approved new degree tracks in jazz studies, music technology, performing arts management, and string pedagogy, all part of an extensive bachelor of arts degree program. A new major of music in performance degree, specializing in wind woodwinds, was also approved. UNI offers 12 degree programs in music disciplines and two artist diplomas. Additionally, the Commission approved the listing of the UNI Community Music School and UNI Suzuki School for reaccreditation, with both outreach organizations enrolling more than 600 community members as participants.

School of Music Welcomes New Faculty Member

Joining the School of Music staff this year is Alison Altstatt, assistant professor of musicology/music history. We are pleased to introduce her to you and to welcome her to the UNI School of Music.

Alison Altstatt holds an M.A. in musicology/music history. Her dissertation, “The Music and Liturgy of Kloster Preetze: Anna von Buchwald’s Buch im Chor in its Fifteenth-century Context,” was awarded the American Musicological Society’s Alvin H. Johnson AMS-50 Fellowship in 2010. At the University of Oregon and Western Oregon University, Altstatt taught courses in music history and in early music performance. As visiting assistant professor at Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music, she taught survey courses in medieval music, operatic literature, chamber music literature, and the music of Robert and Clara Schumann, and co-directed the Early Music Institute’s Concentus ensemble in performances of medieval chant from original transcriptions. Altstatt’s primary research interest is in medieval chant, with a focus on the music and liturgy of women’s monastic communities, the music of the medieval office and the medieval sequence. She has presented her research at regional and national meetings of the American Musicological Society, the College Music Society, the Cantus Planus meeting of the International Musicological Society and the International Congress on Medieval Studies. Her publications on the transmission and performance practice of the medieval sequence repertoire have appeared in the volume ‘The Sequences of Nidaros: A Nordic Retrospect and its European Context’ (2006) and in ‘Cantus Planus: papers read at the 13th meeting, Niederaltlaich, 2006’ (2009).

Alison’s works in progress include a monograph on the music and Liturgy of Kloster Preetze, an edition of Anna von Buchwald’s Buch im Chor and a study of music attributed to the 10th century composer Regnold of Eichstätt. She is an active singer of medieval and Renaissance music and plays the viola da gamba.
The evening will be filled with exceptional performances by student and faculty musicians as well as post-show music featuring School of Music faculty artists in Davis Hall. Plan to stay for excellent hors d'oeuvres and a champagne reception in the lobby, Friday, September 28, 2012.

Get ready for a celebration as we commemorate the School of Music’s 120-year history on Friday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. The Scholarship Benefit Concert will be a night of exceptional music and a celebration of the School of Music’s rich history.

You won’t want to miss it!
The UNI Suzuki School continues to provide a variety of experiences and opportunities for both Suzuki and UNI School of Music students. Two School of Music graduate students were an integral part of the school’s activities in 2011-12. Graduate student Michaela Gansen joined the school as an intern with duties including teaching group and individual lessons, developing instructional materials, researching instructional methods and assisting with the administration of school activities. Graduate student John Holloway developed and taught a theory course for the older Suzuki students and helped develop a collaborative chamber music project with CMS and the Suzuki School.

The UNI Suzuki School continues to provide a variety of experiences and opportunities for both Suzuki and UNI School of Music students. Two School of Music graduate students were an integral part of the school’s activities in 2011-12. Graduate student Michaela Gansen joined the school as an intern with duties including teaching group and individual lessons, developing instructional materials, researching instructional methods and assisting with the administration of school activities. Graduate student John Holloway developed and taught a theory course for the older Suzuki students and helped develop a collaborative chamber music project with CMS and the Suzuki School.

In January, UNI Opera (Sandra Walden, director) and the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra (Rebecca Burkhardt, conductor) performed the perennial Mozart favorite, Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute). The production was produced with the Gallagher Bluedorn, and was featured as part of its Artist Series. "We were thrilled to be back in the Great Hall this year," Walden said. "I think the Great Hall was born to be an opera stage – the acoustics are superb, and scope of the stage and house are perfectly suited for the grand scale of opera." "We made the decision with this production to sing in German, but to speak the dialogue in English, So, while Corey Barrett (vocal coach) worked tirelessly with the singers on their German diction and understanding of the language, I wrote an original English libretto," Walden continued. "I wanted to find a way to make sense of a mixed language production, and I also wanted to significantly expand the roles of the Three Spirits, in order to give more singers the opportunity to have principal roles in the production. The Three Spirits became narrators, moving between our world and the world of the opera, making it clear that, although it is Mozart with deeply profound music and ideas, Die Zauberflöte is also a comedy!" Singers in principal roles were double casts (ranging from sophomores to graduate students), including Mackenzie Whitney and Juan Ahumada as Tamino, Samantha Kantak and Kaethe Henning as Pamina, and Juan Ahumada as Tamino, Samantha Kantak and Kaethe Henning as Pamina, and Megan O’Brien and Valeria Kishkunas as Queen of the Night. The role of Sarastro was sung by faculty artist John Hines.

"We were also thrilled to have the Men’s Glee Club (John Wilkes, director) join us," Walden added. "Mozart wrote stunning music for the priests’ chorus, so the Glee Club very graciously agreed to be our Chorus of Priests. It was thrilling to see more than 80 men on stage, in costume and to hear the fullness of their sound in that music. It was a spectacle, in the best sense of the word!"

The School of Music opera program and orchestra will collaborate with the Gallagher-Bluedorn production crew again in spring 2013 when they will offer an Opera Gala.

Editor’s note: Thank you to Sandi Walden for her assistance and contribution to this article.
Student Awards

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 2012 Spotlight Series Performance Competition Finals, Stephanie Opsal, clarinet, was named the 2012 Presser Scholar and awarded the $4,600 Presser Foundation Award. Opsal is a third year music education major and she plays clarinet in the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra and UNI Wind Symphony, which recently toured northern Italy. She also performs with JOES Clarinet Quartet and the UNI Clarinet Ensemble. Stephanie is a student member of the National Association for Music Education and Iowa Bandmasters’ Association. She is also an active member and Peer Group Leader of the UNI Honors Program.

The $2,000 Charles and Marlieta Matheson Award was awarded to Betsy Kreassig, flute, Betsy is a third year double major in music education and flute performance. She previously studied with Amy Sams and is currently a student of Angeleita Floyd. Betsy is a member of the UNI Wind Symphony, the Northern Iowa Flute Choir and the flute quartet Flustastic Four. She was the founding president of the UNI student chapter of the Iowa Bandmasters Association and is currently the UNI School of Music Tech Student Supervisor.

Gabe Scheid, alto saxophone, was awarded the $1,000 Myron and Ruth Russell Award for his performance of Ibert’s Concertino de camerì, 1st movement. Gabe is a third year jazz studies major from Sioux City. He performs with the UNI Wind Symphony and Jazz Band One, along with other groups including the UNSAX saxophone quartet and the Jazz Band Four jazz quartet. Gabe serves as the jazz chairman for the School of Music Student Advisory Board, is a member of the student recording studio and is an office holder in the music fraternity Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

The People’s Choice Award, voted on by the audience at the Concerto Competition Finals Concert each spring, was awarded to Sarah Draffen, soprano. Draffen is a third year vocal performance major. She sings in the UNI Concert Chorale and has been a active member of the UNI Opera Ensemble since starting at UNI.

In Nov. 2011, Abi Cofer, flute, was awarded the top honor at the UNI School of Music Instrumental Concerto Competition Finals. In the summer of 2006, Miyazawa Young Artist Abi Cofer was nationally recognized when she won first place in the National Flute Association (NFA) High School Soloist Competition in Pittsburgh. She was also honored with the NFA’s Best Performance of Newly Commissioned Work, as well as the Geoffrey Gilbert Scholarship. Since then, Abi has won competitions including Mid-South Flute Festival’s Young Artist Competition (2010), BachFest (2009) and the Flute Society of Kentucky Young Artist Competition (2009). Abi is a second year M.M. student and graduate assistant studying under Angeleita Floyd.

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

More than 300 students from across the state of Iowa competed in the Iowa State NAIS competition held Oct. 28-29, 2011 at Drake University. Ten UNI School of Music students received honors at the competition.

In the Graduate Division, Mackenzie Whitney of Cedar Falls earned second place; Whitney is a student of Jeff Brich.

In the Senior Women Division, Ashley Armstrong of Winterset took first place honors; Armstrong is a student of John Hines. Samantha Kantak of Webster City earned second place honors in the Senior Women Division; Kantak is a student of Jean McDonald. In the Senior Men Division, Eric Eichelberger of Waterloo earned second place; Eichelberger is a student of John Hines. In the same division, James Healy of Jefferson earned third place; Healy is a student of Jean McDonald.

In the Junior Men Division, Rhys Talbot of Cedar Falls took first place; Rhys is a student of John Hines. Sarah Draffen of Reinbeck earned first place in the Junior Women Division; Draffen is a student of Jeffrey Brich.

Joey Spivey of Pleasant Hill took second place honors in the Sophomore Men Division; Spivey is a student of Leslie Morgan. In the Sophomore Women Division, Kayla Kjeldseth of Sioux City earned third place; Kayla is a student of Jean McDonald.

In the Freshmen Men Division, Colin Wilson of Iowa City earned first place; Wilson is a student of Leslie Morgan.

Additional student accomplishments include:

- David Hoobler was awarded the Ethel Gilbert Excellence in Music Education Scholarship award. This scholarship is awarded to a student who demonstrates superior teaching abilities and great potential as a future music educator. The recipient is selected by the UNI Music Education faculty.
- Senior Rebecca Buseman (B.A. music and accounting) from the piano studio of Dmitri Vorobiev won first place in the MTNA Young Artist Competition state round. She advanced to the regional round in Boulder, Col. in January.
- Abi Cofer, second year graduate student (M.M. flute performance), was recently selected as the second alternate in the National Flute Association (NFA) Young Artist Competition.

Student award recipients (L to R) Sarah Draffen, Gabe Scheid, Stephanie Opsal and Betsy Kreassig

The Power of Purple!

Your UNI Alumni Association is the place for keeping us up to date with what’s going on in your life! Looking for a former classmate? The online alumni directory provides information easily and quickly. Want to get together with a large or small group of your former Panther friends? The Alumni office will help you with that too! Reunion of someone who would benefit from the UNI experience? Share that information with us and the admissions office will swing into action! Or perhaps you would like to help with career advice for a current student, or by talking with your local state legislator. Whether it’s coming back for Homecoming, a social in your hometown or just sharing your life’s events through the Northern Iowa Today, your UNI Alumni Association is the place to make it all happen. Let us know how we can help. Email info@uni alumni.org, call 888-UNI ALUM or visit www.uni alumni.org.

Alumni Association membership dues provide all these services and more. Join today at www.uni alumni.org!
A look back at our visiting artists

October 2011

October was full of exciting guest artist visits, including the D54 visit of cellist Anthony Arnone. Anthony Arnone enjoys a varied career as a soloist, chamber musician, conductor, recording artist and teacher throughout the country and around the world. Arnone is associate professor of cello at The University of Iowa School of Music, and is also on the faculty of the Preucl School of Music in Iowa City. Arnone has collaborated with many of today’s great chamber artists including members of the Pro Arte Quartet, Cypress Quartet, Fry Street Quartet and Arianna Quartet.

The Esposito/Bellavance Duo visited the School of Music on Oct. 11 for both a master class and recital. A charismatic and versatile flutist, Nicole Esposito is the flute professor at the University of Iowa. She has achieved a career as a soloist, teacher, chamber and orchestral musician on an international level, having been a featured soloist across the United States, Europe, Central and South America. Bellavance is a Meridian Records artist who has appeared at festivals in Switzerland, the United States and South America, on radio broadcasts for the CBC, the Radio Suisse Romande and National Public Radio (USA), and has given recitals in cities such as Prague, Barcelona, Geneva and more. Guest artist Robert Duke, music educator, also visited in October, presenting both a master class and the School of Music Convocation address during his stay. Robert Duke is the Marlene and Morton Meyerson Centennial Professor and Head of Music and Human Learning at The University of Texas at Austin, where he is a university distinguished teaching professor. Elizabeth Shatto Massey distinguished fellow in teacher education, and director of the center for music learning. He is also a member of the faculty and director of the psychology of learning program at the Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles. The most recent recipient of MENC’s Senior Researcher Award, Duke has directed national research efforts under the sponsorship of such organizations as the National Piano Foundation and the International Suzuki Institute.

November 2011

November was another busy month, full of exciting performances by spectacular guest artists. The School of Music was proud to host visiting artist Patricia McCarty, viola, as guest at the 2012 UNI Viola Festival. An active proponent of the solo viola, McCarty has performed to consistent critical acclaim throughout North America, as well as in Europe, Japan, Venezuela and Australia, appearing as soloist with the Detroit, Houston, Kyoto and Shinsen Nihon symphonies, Boston Pops, Orchester der Beethovenhalle Bonn and more. Former assistant principal violist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Patricia McCarty presently is faculty member of the Boston Conservatory and the Meadowmont School of Music, where she teaches viola, chamber music and professional orchestral audition preparation.

November’s exciting guest artist roster was completed when Zodiac Quartet performed a recital, comprised of reedsmen Aaron Kruzicki and Mike Bjella, bassist Karl Comcas-Reichl, and drummers Colin Stranahan and Devin Dricka, 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, hip-hop, American soul music and contemporary jazz and their collective classical background.

January 2012

The spring semester begins with guest bassoonist Ricardo Rapoport performing a recital performance. Born in Brazil, where he first studied the bassoon and performed professionally throughout Brazil, he moved to France where he was awarded a First Prize from the Paris Conservatory, and studied with the world renowned French bassoonist Marcel Mangel. Rapoport continued extensively with many of the most important period orchestras in Europe today, such as Le Concert Spirituel, and the Petite Bande, and his recently returned CD of the Dard Six Sonatas for Bassoon has won critical acclaim.

February 2012

February began with a visit from guest organist Philip Brisson. Brisson is Director of Music and Organist at the Catholic Cathedral of the Assumption in downtown Louisville, the oldest, inland Catholic cathedral in continuous use in the country. In addition to his duties at the cathedral, Brisson is also choral director for the Kentucky Opera. He has performed with both the faculty of Bellarmine University and has given recitals throughout the United States.

The annual Northern Festival of Bands was held in February, with guest conductors Claudio Re and Lázaro Marosi. Re is a visiting assistant professor of music at Kenyon College in Ohio, where he conducts the Kenyon Wind Ensemble. He has a diploma in trombone performance from the Luna Marcos Conservatory in Brescia, Italy, the master of arts degree from UNI and a Ph.D. in musicology from the University of Florida. Marosi is conductor of the Symphony Orchestra at the University of Central Florida. He studied conducting at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, and has been conductor of the Hungarian Central Army Orchestra. Following his professional career in Hungary, Marosi earned a M.M. in conducting and a Ph.D. in music education from Florida State University.

The chill of February melted away with the arrival of guest artist Peter Apfelbaum, an avant-garde jazz pianist, tenor saxophonist and composer. Apfelbaum was the featured guest artist at this year’s 61st annual Sinfonian Dimensions in Jazz concerts during the Tallcorn Jazz Festival. Apfelbaum has made an impact on the avant-garde jazz and world music scene since the late 1970s. He is a well known instructor on drums and composition, and has performed and recorded with the ensemble The New York Hieroglyphs.

March 2012

March 2012 was packed with performances, beginning with a guest appearance by Barry Green for a guest artist performance. Green, a native Californian, is a distinguished performer and teacher. A dynamo in the jazz world, Green has performed in Russia’s premier concert venues and on every continent, often performing alongside faculty artist (and Rider’s former teacher) Barry Grabowski. Ryder is a true legend in the music world, and is a mentor of “The President’s Own” Marine Band. She attended UNI and Indiana University. She has been an instructor at Indiana University, Purdue University and Elizabethtown Independent Schools, and has performed with numerous groups including the New World Symphony, Robert Guillaume and The Moody Blues.

April 2012

The final month of the 2011-12 performance season was packed with exciting guest artist performances and presentations. Early April welcomed double bassist Barry Green for a guest artist performance. Green, a native Californian, while students were gearing up for midterms and spring break, the School of Music continued to celebrate the artistry of several more incredibly talented guests. Guest artist Hans Sturm visited UNI to offer a double bass recital on March 1. Sturm has performed as soloist, chamber, orchestral, jazz and improvisational musician throughout Europe, Asia, South America, Africa and the United States. Sturm received his doctorate from Northwestern University and is currently an Associate Professor and Chair of the String Department at Ball State University.

Susan Rider appeared as guest artist in May during a trumpeter recital alongside faculty artist (and Rider’s former teacher) Randy Grabowski. Rider is a trumpeter whose resume is a menagerie of “The President’s Own” Marine Band. She attended UNI and Indiana University. She has been an instructor at Indiana University, Purdue University and Elizabethtown Independent Schools, and has performed with numerous groups including the New World Symphony, Robert Guillaume and The Moody Blues.

Wrapping up March, the UNI Flute Festival featured two extremely talented guest artists: William Bennett and Denis Bourlakov. William Bennett is distinguished by his unique tone, wide range of colors, and consummate musicianship. He has held principal positions with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and currently the English Chamber Orchestra. Most recently, Bennett was awarded the National Flute Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002. Denis Bourlakov has developed one of the fastest growing careers amongst the musicians of his generation. He currently holds the highly coveted position of principal flute with the Metropolitan Opera, New York. He has won numerous prizes in prestigious international competitions and has performed in Russia’s premier concert halls since the age of 11.

The School of Music continues to extend its gratitude for the contributions of Dorothyean Dean.

Many of our guest artists were able to join us thanks to the generosity of Dorothyean Dean and the Dean Family Foundation (a Fellowship in 1997), National Endowment for the Arts, The Reader’s Digest/Lila Wallace Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, The Bellagio Center in Bellagio, Italy, the Ligurian Study Center in Bogliaco, Italy, the American Music Center and ASCAP. His orchestral music has been performed by more than 50 orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony, He lives in Bastrop, Texas, and travels widely to conduct and teach.

www.uni.edu/music | 17
University of Northern Iowa

Korey Barrett, assistant professor of vocal coaching and collaborative piano
• Co-created a new opera company in San Diego called Opera Neo with colleague and Artistic Director Peter Kozma.
• Appeared as pianist at the Cedar Valley Chamber Music Festival and many UNI performances.
• Served as President of the UNI chapter of Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society.
• Tom Barry, assistant professor of oboe and saxophone
• Performed on oboe/English horn for Johnny Mathis, and as principal oboist with the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony.
• Appeared as clinician at the Northern Festival of Bands and the All-State Wind, Brass and Percussion Workshops at UNI.
• Served as audio recording/sound engineer on 32 professional live and studio recordings in 2011-12.
• Sean Betkin, associate professor of piano
• Performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at the Ravinia Festival in August 2012 (see pg. 4).
• Served as faculty member of the Sixth Aloha International Piano Festival in Honolulu, Hawaii.
• Performed several concerts at UNI, throughout Iowa and Minnesota and with Orchestra del Teatro Lirico di Cagliari, Italy.
• Melinda Boyd, assistant professor of music history
• Published a chapter in an edited collection: “The Politics of Color in Oscar Hammerstein’s Carmen Jones” in Blackness in Opera, University of Illinois Press.
• Presented two research papers as part of the UNI lecture series that she founded titled Musically Speaking: Lectures in Musicology, Music Theory, and Ethnomusicology.

Jeff Brich, instructor in applied voice
• Celebrated many honors and achievements earned by students in his studio.
• Featured as soloist at “A Night at the Opera” concert with Waterloo Met Chorale and Orchestra, as well as the Cedar Falls Municipal Band and the Cedar Rapids Falls Symphony Orchestra.
• Served on several School of Music committees.

Christopher Buchholz, assistant professor of trombone
• Released a new album titled “A la Albéniz” on Albany Records in December 2011.
• Appeared as trombonist with the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Brass Quintet, the Cedar Rapids Symphony, Cedar Falls Municipal Band and Pierson Big Band and Johnny Mathis.
• Celebrated five years of service at UNI this year.

Julia Bullard, associate director of graduate studies and associate professor of viola and theory
• Awarded the Veridian UNI Community Engagement Award in April 2012.
• Presented a concerto performance, master class and music education workshop at University of Caxias do Sul in Brazil.
• Established the group Trio B82 and offered performances with the group in Iowa, California and Italy.

Rebecca Burkhardt, professor of music and conductor of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra
• Served as master teacher at a two-day intensive conducting clinic in San Paolo, Italy.
• Appeared as conductor and music director for several UNI and Iowa community productions including “The Magic Flute,” “The Music Man” and more.
• Continued composition and revision of “JUST ANN” a musical on the life and times of Gov. Ann W. Richards.

Theresa Camilli, assistant professor of piano pedagogy and music education
• Served as editor of Iowa Music Teachers Association Magazine, and as executive board member of the Iowa Music Teachers Association.
• Created a pedagogy workshop for local teachers to attend titled How To Teach Technique and Artistry to Beginners and Beyond.

Jonathan Chenoweth, associate professor of cello
• Coordinated and performed in several community outreach performances in the Cedar Valley, and appeared as guest clinician at the Okalahoma Junior Chamber Festival.
• Served as panelist for two university workshops and celebrated 20 years of service to UNI this year.

Kevin Droe, assistant professor of music education
• Published his article “The Effect of Score on Band Directors’ Written Comments of a Recorded Performance” in Journal of Band Research.
• Offered three research presentations including his paper “What We Want: Effects of Motivation and Attribution” presented at Society for Music Teacher Education Conference in Greensboro, N.C.
• Appeared as guest conductor and clinician at six Iowa high schools and middle schools in 2011-12.

Angeletta Floyd, professor of flute
• Appeared as a guest artist at flute festivals in Costa Rica and Ecuador and as conductor of the Professional Flute Choir at the 39th Annual Convention in Charlotte, N.C.
• Published the article “Looking Back: The NFA in Columbus” in The Flutist Quarterly, winter 2012.
• Celebrated 25 years of service at UNI this year.

Theresa Camilli, assistant professor of piano pedagogy and music education
• Served as editor of Iowa Music Teachers Association Magazine, and as executive board member of the Iowa Music Teachers Association.
• Created a pedagogy workshop for local teachers to attend titled How To Teach Technique and Artistry to Beginners and Beyond.

Jonathan Chenoweth, associate professor of cello
• Coordinated and performed in several community outreach performances in the Cedar Valley, and appeared as guest clinician at the Okalahoma Junior Chamber Festival.
• Served as panelist for two university workshops and celebrated 20 years of service to UNI this year.

Kevin Droe, assistant professor of music education
• Published his article “The Effect of Score on Band Directors’ Written Comments of a Recorded Performance” in Journal of Band Research.
• Offered three research presentations including his paper “What We Want: Effects of Motivation and Attribution” presented at Society for Music Teacher Education Conference in Greensboro, N.C.
• Appeared as guest conductor and clinician at six Iowa high schools and middle schools in 2011-12.

Angeletta Floyd, professor of flute
• Appeared as a guest artist at flute festivals in Costa Rica and Ecuador and as conductor of the Professional Flute Choir at the 39th Annual Convention in Charlotte, N.C.
• Published the article “Looking Back: The NFA in Columbus” in The Flutist Quarterly, winter 2012.
• Celebrated 25 years of service at UNI this year.

Theresa Camilli, assistant professor of piano pedagogy and music education
• Served as editor of Iowa Music Teachers Association Magazine, and as executive board member of the Iowa Music Teachers Association.
• Created a pedagogy workshop for local teachers to attend titled How To Teach Technique and Artistry to Beginners and Beyond.

Jonathan Chenoweth, associate professor of cello
• Coordinated and performed in several community outreach performances in the Cedar Valley, and appeared as guest clinician at the Okalahoma Junior Chamber Festival.
• Served as panelist for two university workshops and celebrated 20 years of service to UNI this year.

Kevin Droe, assistant professor of music education
• Published his article “The Effect of Score on Band Directors’ Written Comments of a Recorded Performance” in Journal of Band Research.
• Offered three research presentations including his paper “What We Want: Effects of Motivation and Attribution” presented at Society for Music Teacher Education Conference in Greensboro, N.C.
• Appeared as guest conductor and clinician at six Iowa high schools and middle schools in 2011-12.

Angeletta Floyd, professor of flute
• Appeared as a guest artist at flute festivals in Costa Rica and Ecuador and as conductor of the Professional Flute Choir at the 39th Annual Convention in Charlotte, N.C.
• Published the article “Looking Back: The NFA in Columbus” in The Flutist Quarterly, winter 2012.
• Celebrated 25 years of service at UNI this year.

Theresa Camilli, assistant professor of piano pedagogy and music education
• Served as editor of Iowa Music Teachers Association Magazine, and as executive board member of the Iowa Music Teachers Association.
• Created a pedagogy workshop for local teachers to attend titled How To Teach Technique and Artistry to Beginners and Beyond.
Jeffery Funderburk, professor of tuba/euphonium
• Composed and performed a new work with Sandy Nordahl titled Para Loga Electronica.
• Performed as tandem tuba on the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra’s performance of Symphony Fantasque.
• Served as chair of the UNI Faculty Senate, the Presidential Five Year Review Committee, and as a representative of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences on several committees.

Danny Galyen, assistant professor of music education and director of the UNI Marching and Symphonic Bands
• Designed, directed and conducted more than 25 performances in 2011-12, including performances of his original drill designs and arrangements by the UNI Panther Marching Band.
• Served on five committees and chaired one committee at UNI, and appeared as guest clinician at eight events throughout Iowa during the academic year.
• Released compact disc recording of the UNI Marching Band, “Cat Scratch Fever,” August 2011.

Randy Grabowski, professor of trumpet
• Appeared as trumpet soloist and principal trumpeter with the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra and the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Brass Quintet.
• Performed with Mannheim Steamroller, Johnny Mathis, Dr. John’s James Bond Orchestra, Rod Pierson Big Band and the Metropolitan Chorale.
• Celebrated 25 years of service at UNI this year.

Robin Guy, professor of piano
• Performed at the Interlochen Arts Camp, and in New York, Missouri, Michigan and North Carolina in addition to more than 70 student recitals, competitions, recordings and seminars at UNI in 2011-12.
• Served as chair of the keyboard division, and as member of eight School of Music committees.

Frederick Halgedahl, assistant professor of violin
• Served as chair of the School of Music Professional Assessment Committee.
• Performed several recitals and concerts at UNI and throughout the Cedar Valley including performances at the Cedar Valley Chamber Music Festival and the GBFAC’s Crème de la Crème.
• Celebrated 24 years of service at UNI this year.

John Hines, assistant professor of voice
• Performed a series of six concerts throughout northern Italy while on tour with the UNI Wind Symphony and presented a guest artist recital at the Herzen State Pedagogical University in St. Petersburg, Russia.
• Served as voice division chair in 2011-12.
• Celebrated five years of service at UNI this year.

Randy Hogancamp, associate professor of percussion
• Coordinated several outreach percussion performances including a percussion ensemble and West African drum ensemble performance at the Iowa Percussive Arts Society Days of Percussion event in Iowa City.
• Performed on several concerts including a timpani duo with adjunct faculty artist Matthew Andreini and a djembe solo with UNI Jazz Band One.
• Served as guest artist Niwa Agbeli.

Ronald Johnson, professor of instrumental music
• Appeared as conductor of the Northern Iowa Wind Symphony and led the ensemble on a 10-day tour of northern Italy.
• Served as chair of the division of large ensembles and conducting.
• Coordinated the 30th anniversary reunion of Wind Symphony alumni and the 2012 Northern Festival of Bands.

Amanda McCandless, assistant professor of clarinet
• Performed as soloist on a series of six concerts throughout northern Italy while on tour with the UNI Wind Symphony.
• Organized a faculty and student chamber music recital featuring works by Dan Welcher during the composer’s two-day residency at UNI.

University of Northern Iowa

Alan Schmitz, associate director of undergraduate studies and professor of music theory and composition
• Presented guest recitals and master classes in Wisconsin and New Mexico.

Jean McDonald, professor of voice
• Performed as soloist with the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra on excerpts from Emily Dickinson Songs by Copland in November 2011.
• Appeared as adjudicator for the senior level competition at the Rochester Music Festival Competition.
• Served as member of several university committees, and offered master classes and lessons during the 2011 UNI Vocal Arts Festival.

Christopher Merz, professor of jazz studies
• Performed with numerous ensembles across Iowa including the Bands of Time quintet, Equilateral and Eric Thompson and the Talented Tenth in 2011-12.
• Published his big band composition “Accident @ Perkins” on Walrus Music.
• Served as producer, conductor and composer on the critically acclaimed UNI Jazz Band One release “Let Go.”

Dyan Meyer, instructor and conductor of chamber ensembles
• Coordinated the 2011 Vocal Arts Festival.
• Appeared as conductor or pianist at more than 15 performances in 2011-12.
• 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 2011-12.
• Supported many honor and achievements earned by students in her studio.
• Celebrated 25 years of service at UNI this year.

David Racho, professor of bassoon and saxophone
• Presented a lecture on Historical Bassoon and the performance of Bizet Songs” for horn and piano on Veritas Musicus.
• Performed as guest artist in New York and Taiwan, and was featured on Iowa Public Radio in October 2011.
• Celebrated five years of service at UNI this year.

Michelle Swanson, instructor of music education
• Directed and conducted the UNI Children’s Choir in 2011-12.
• Appeared as guest conductor for the Iowa Choral Directors Elementary Choir in Central Iowa.
• Coordinated and hosted several music education workshops in the School of Music, and appeared as accompanist at several seminars and recitals at UNI.

John Valentine, professor and director of the School of Music
• Served as a National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Visiting Evaluator at Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, Fl.
• Served as Commencement marshal for the fall and spring Commencement exercises at UNI, and represented UNI at the Arts Live Youth Festival in 2011.
• Celebrated 20 years of service at UNI this year.

Omar Velez, assistant professor of piano
• Performed recitals in Yellowknife, Canada; Sarasota, Fl.; and Pilsen, Czech Republic.
• Presented master classes at UNI and in Ames, Iowa, as well as Canada and the Czech Republic.
• Received a two-month summer fellowship to record an album of music by Franz Liszt on the Blue Griffin label.

Sandra Walden, assistant professor of opera and musical theatre direction
• Directed the UNI Opera Ensemble in the stage production of the Zaubertfluence.
• Walden also wrote an original English libretto for the production.
• Served as member of several School of Music faculty and staff committees including the Scholarship Benefit Concert committee.
• Served as adjudicator for several School of Music competitions and auditions.

Robert Washut, professor of jazz studies
• Performed as guest soloist with the South Dakota State University Jazz Ensemble and was a clinician for the annual SDSU Jazz Festival in April.
• Composed the 2011 Iowa All-State Jazz audition etude and two new compositions/arrangements commissioned by Trio 826 and the Sioux City North High School.
• Appeared as pianist, arranger and music director with Orchestra Alte Zeit and as guest pianist at a dozen more events throughout the Midwest.

John Wiles, assistant professor of choral conducting
• Served as men’s choirs repertoire and standards chair for the Iowa Choral Director’s Association and as member on several School of Music committees.

The School of Music is always excited to hear from our exceptional retirees 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 of them and their current projects and travels.

Marlieta Matheson – Marlieta wrote to us to share stories of her travel this last year. She spent Christmas in Hawaii with her son Davis. Matheson also spent time in California visiting with UNI alumnus Hyung Koo, B.M. ’85, M.M. ’88; Renee Rapier, B.M. ’09, M.M. ’11; and Sheri McAllister (B.A., B.M.). In the fall, Marlieta visited Kansas City and spent time with alumna JoDee Davis (B.M. ’80, M.M. ’85). She has enjoyed attending the HD Met Opera performances, College Square theatres, and worked on improving her golf game this summer.

Bill Shepherd – Bill wrote to us to note that he continues to keep busy as a performer, conductor, arranger and music educator. Bill performed with the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony and presented the second Bill Shepherd Big Band Christmas Concert in Cedar Falls in December. His Dixieland band “Red Hots” also performed at the grand opening of the Waterloo Riverfront Pavilion. In summer 2012, Bill conducted the Waterloo Municipal Band in eight concerts. Additionally, Bill observed student teachers throughout the academic year, and coordinated the 27th annual Iowa trombones workshop.

Eminent Faculty Activities

www.uni.edu/music | 21
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

- **1950** Patricia (De Koster) Echeberger, B.A., and spouse, Kenneth, celebrated their fifteenth anniversary by taking their family on a 10-day Hawaiian Islands cruise.

1960s

- **1960** Janice (Gideon) Cuffel, B.A., Marion, Iowa, retired from teaching piano and organ in her private studio and as organist for churches in the Cedar Rapids area, most recently organist and coordinator of music ministries at Cedar Rapids First Presbyterian Church. She was an accomplished in the area, including two years at Kirkwood Community College, and occasional keyboardist with the Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra. She is married to Harry Cuffel, B.A., M.A., ’66, retired industrial tech teacher at Cedar Rapids Kennedy High School.
- **1960** Connie Speake, B.A., Chicago, Ill., professor emeritus, Northeastern Illinois University, retired in December after teaching for 45 years. She then went to Armenia for three and a half years as a Peace Corps volunteer. She participated in a road scholar elderhostel program studying Frank Lloyd Wright’s Falling Waters in April 2012. She enjoys playing piano and gardening.

1970s

- **1970** Milt Mikesh, B.A., ’55, Waterloo, Iowa, a WWII veteran and retired professional musician and school band director, was inducted into the UNI School of Music Jazz Hall of Fame in April 2012. He is currently a member of the UNI New Horizons Band and conducts the Northeast Iowa Community Band.
- **1970** Eileen (Meyer) Russell, M.M., is a resident artist of the American Lyric Theater Composer Librettist Development Program where he is writing a one-act opera with librettist Magda Begin called “The Silence in the House.” Other current projects include a musical, “Lightning Man,” which received a developmental production at Tuscaloosa School of the Arts and was presented as part of the ANT Fest 2011 at Arts Nova. Jeffrey is also working on a duo percussion piece to be performed in a series of concerts in Iowa and Hungary in 2013.

1980s

- **1980** Patricia (Cahoy) Cunningham, B.M., San Antonio, Tex., is a resident artist of the American Lyric Theater Composer Librettist Development Program where she is writing a one-act opera with librettist Magda Begin called “The Silence in the House.” Other current projects include a musical, “Lightning Man,” which received a developmental production at Tuscaloosa School of the Arts and was presented as part of the ANT Fest 2011 at Arts Nova. Jeffrey is also working on a duo percussion piece to be performed in a series of concerts in Iowa and Hungary in 2013.
- **1980** Ann (Osborne) Gribbins, B.M., currently serves as the Iowa All-State Orchestra Chair. Gribbins also serves as orchestra director for the Whitter Elementary, Indianola Middle School and Indianola High School.
- **1980** Brian Usher, B.A., Colorado Springs, Colo., retired June 2011 after teaching and performing for 33 years in Colorado Springs area schools, last at Jenkins Middle School, where the jazz band was, in 2007, the only Colorado band to pass the audition process and performed at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. Many former students are now band directors or professional performers.

1990s

- **1990** Patricia (Cahoy) Cunningham, B.M., San Antonio, Tex., is a resident artist of the American Lyric Theater Composer Librettist Development Program where she is writing a one-act opera with librettist Magda Begin called “The Silence in the House.” Other current projects include a musical, “Lightning Man,” which received a developmental production at Tuscaloosa School of the Arts and was presented as part of the ANT Fest 2011 at Arts Nova. Jeffrey is also working on a duo percussion piece to be performed in a series of concerts in Iowa and Hungary in 2013.
- **1990** Trina (Modlin) Miller, B.A. ’01, a stay-at-home parent, lives with wife and two children in the Denver area. She recently released an album with fellow UNI graduate Delaine Fedson as the duo Unique Conversations.

2000s

- **2000** Amanda Schroeder, B.A., Minneapolis, Minn., currently serves as the events and individual gifts manager at MacPhail Center for Music.
- **2000** Suzanne Hendrix, B.M., M.M. ’06, Charles City, Iowa, was named one of six winners of $10,000 awards at the 41st annual George London Foundation Awards Competition for young American and Canadian opera singers in February 2012 in New York, N.Y., and sang the role of Azucena in the Wichita, Kan. Grand Opera performance of “Il Trovatore” that same month. She returned to the Santa Fe Opera as an apprentice singer, singing the role of the fortune teller in “Arabella” in summer 2012. Suzanne currently voices at Avila University in Kansas City.

Enhanced Update
24 | Rhythms | Fall 2012

An alumni newsletter of the University of Northern Iowa School of Music


to hearing from you!

www.uni.edu/music | 25

26

13-17, 2012. He is currently in the studio of Steven King, and his upcoming engagements include concert appearances in "Manon" at the Metropolitan Opera.

'Tony Butterworth, B.M., Monticello, Iowa, is in his fourth year as 7-12 band director at Western Dubuque Jr./Sr. High in Cascade, and working on his master’s degree. He and wife Kara (Breitbach) Butterworth, B.A. ‘03, are the parents of 6- and 3-year-old daughters and a son born June 2011.

'02 Austin Kness, B.A., was featured in the role of Brühlmann in the San Francisco Opera’s fall 2011 production of Massenet’s "Werther."

'03 Allison (Hasselbrink) Griesel, B.M., Peoria, Ariz., is teaching kindergarten through fifth grade general music and show choir at Verrado Elementary School in Buckeye, Ariz.

'05 Eliza Bangerter, B.M., Chicago, Ill., plays flute in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, third flute/piccolo with Southwest Michigan Symphony, freelances around the Chicago area and also does orchestral library work for the Grant Park Symphony and AWR Music.

'06 Christian Anderson, B.M., Chicago, Ill., has performed with the Wisconsin Philharmonic and the Milwaukee Symphony, and taught at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in summer 2010. Fall 2010, Christian was offered a position as principal trumpet of the Beijing Symphony Orchestra. He often enjoys performing as sub with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

'06 Claudio Re, M.A., Gambier, Ohio, earned a Ph.D. in music history and literature at the University of Florida. In 2011-12, he was visiting assistant professor of music at Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, where he conducted their concert wind ensemble and taught music history.

'07 Sharra Wagner, M.M., Kansas City, Mo., is in her third year of D.M.A. program in clarinet performance at UMCM Conservatory of Music, and is married to Aaron McNally, B.A. ‘02. She is clarinet instructor at UMCM Community Music and Dance Academy.

'08 Stephen Fish, B.M., Cedar Falls, Iowa, a graduate student at UMCM Conservatory of Music, was the first singer to walk onstage on the Lyric Opera of Kansas City’s opening night production of "Turandot" at the new Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City in Oct. 2011. Fish, a bass baritone, was understudy to lead American opera legend Samuel Ramey.

'08 Evan Smith, B.M., Seattle, Wash., premiered two pieces at the World Saxophone Congress XVII, in St. Andrews, Scotland, in July, including one by UNI professor Jonathan Schwabhe. Smith recently finished the first year of his D.M.A. at the University of Washington, where he also teaches jazz history. He is playing in a number of different jazz and classical groups in the Seattle area, and will return to Iowa in the fall to perform a recital at UNI on Oct. 25.

'09 Renée Rapier, B.M., M.M. ‘11, made her professional opera debut with the Los Angeles Opera singing the role of Stephanie in Gounod’s “Romeo and Juliet.” Rapier was previously a participant in the LA Opera Young Artist Program and the Merola Opera Program. She also appeared in the Boston Early Music Festival with La Dona Musicale, and recently began an Adler fellowship with the San Francisco Opera.

'09 Jeffrey Wadschmitt, B.A., Ankeny, Iowa, was appointed as staffing manager in the ticket office at the Des Moines Civic Center in Nov. 2011.

'09 Daniel White, B.M., Bettendorf, Iowa, was elected a member of the Phi Mu Alpha Sigma fraternity at UNI.

'09 Jason Shadrick, M.M., and Cindy (Schi) Shadrick, M.M. ‘08, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, daughter Layla Kay Shadrick born Nov. 11, joins big brother Parker.

'10 Bobby Williams, B.M., Bettendorf, Iowa, is director of two vocal jazz ensembles and a chamber ensemble at Pleasant Valley High School. “Jazz Etc...” performed at Best of Iowa Jazz Championships, and along with “Trible Makers” and Concert Choir, received Division I ratings at state contest. He teaches private voice and sings in the Quad City Choral Arts Ensemble.

'11 Hannah Leffler, M.M., Waterloo, Iowa, performed a flute recital in Feb. 2011. She serves on the flute faculty at the Northwest College of Music and manages a private studio in the Waterloo area. She performs with the Oklahoma City Philharmonic and is a principal substitute flutist for the Waterloo Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra and the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra. She has won the James E. Saied Silver Medal at the Crescendo Music awards and the Theodore Presser Award for excellence in music.

Marriages

'08 Michele (Gilsen) Jacobson, B.M., married Riley Jacobson in Aug. 2011.

Births


Engelkes currently serves on the faculty at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and teaches privately. He performs in numerous chamber music ensembles and numerous recording projects.

Mason City, Iowa native Mark Fisher (B.M. ‘83) is the assistant principal trombonist with the Lyric Opera of Chicago and serves the San Francisco Opera as principal trombonist. Fisher has performed with virtually every major ensemble in Chicago and as a substitute with many of the nation’s leading orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra and the St. Louis Symphony. An accomplished euphoniumist, he is a past choice winner of numerous international solo competitions, and his solo CD "Eufish" continues to meet with worldwide acclaim. Head of the trombone department at DePaul University, Fisher has presented recital and master classes throughout the United States, Canada and Japan. He has served on the faculties of Northwestern University, the University of Michigan, Roosevelt University, Northern Illinois University and the Bellaf International Festival. He is an honors graduate of both UNI and the New England Conservatory of Music.

JoDee Davis (B.M. ’90, M.M. ’95) is associate professor of trombone at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance. She is second trombone of the Santa Fe Opera and a member of the Missouri Brass Quintet.

Davis has served on the faculties of Kent State University and Eastern Washington University. Formerly principal trombone of the Spokane Symphony, she has also performed with a number of other orchestras including the Akron, Canton and Youngstown Symphony Orchas in Ohio, and the Spoleto Festival Orchestra in Charleston, S.C. and Spoleto, Italy. Currently she plays extra with the Kansas City Symphony and the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Davis has presented solo recitals and master classes throughout the United States and has performed and given clinics at international trombone festivals, the Eastern Trombone Workshop, the Midwest Clinic, the Arizona Low Brass Symposium and the Ohio and Texas Music Educators Conferences. She is a member of the highly acclaimed trombone quartet PRISMA. Davis received the doctor of music degree in brass literature and performance from Indiana University, and the master of trombone performance and bachelor of music degree in music education from UNI. She has released a solo album on the Albany Records label entitled “In the Moment” and is an artist/ clinician for the Selmer Company.

UNI School of Music is proud to congratulate these four trombonists and all of our performing graduates on their continued professional success!
We were sad to hear of the passing of our past graduates and friends. We send our sympathies to their families and friends.


Editor’s note: Thank you to Bonnie Farland for assistance in gathering information for this article.

The UNI School of Music wishes to acknowledge one of our extraordinary friends this year. C. Hugh Pettersen is an outstanding supporter of music at UNI. We are excited to share a little bit about him with you.

C. Hugh Pettersen never seeks the limelight, but with a personal history so filled with deeply supportive and groundbreaking efforts in the arts – it’s hard not to shine a light on him. Pettersen, a long-time influential College Hill business owner and resident, has been a supporter of the School of Music and arts in the Cedar Valley for years.

Pettersen owned The Duke, a College Hill men’s clothing store, for many years, and later the Henry W. Myrtle Gallery. He was the founding director of the College Hill Arts Festival, co-founder of the College Hill Neighborhood Association and the College Hill Merchant & Professional Association, and behind such traditions as the annual College Hill tree lighting ceremony. Pettersen was also a board member of the Hearst Center for the Arts, and the Friends of the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, where he conceived of the annual Friends fundraiser “Crème de la Crème,” which started in 2001.

Pettersen was recently honored at the 2012 Crème de la Crème event, and the Cedar Falls City Council recently approved naming the Dry Run Creek Plaza on College Hill as Pettersen Plaza in honor of Hugh’s contributions to the community.

The UNI School of Music wishes to extend our warmest thanks to Hugh for his continued support and art advocacy, and we congratulate him on his recent awards and acknowledgements!

Friend of the School of Music: C. Hugh Pettersen

The UNI School of Music wishes to acknowledge one of our extraordinary friends this year. C. Hugh Pettersen is an outstanding supporter of music at UNI. We are excited to share a little bit about him with you.

C. Hugh Pettersen never seeks the limelight, but with a personal history so filled with deeply supportive and groundbreaking efforts in the arts – it’s hard not to shine a light on him. Pettersen, a long-time influential College Hill business owner and resident, has been a supporter of the School of Music and arts in the Cedar Valley for years.

Pettersen owned The Duke, a College Hill men’s clothing store, for many years, and later the Henry W. Myrtle Gallery. He was the founding director of the College Hill Arts Festival, co-founder of the College Hill Neighborhood Association and the College Hill Merchant & Professional Association, and behind such traditions as the annual College Hill tree lighting ceremony. Pettersen was also a board member of the Hearst Center for the Arts, and the Friends of the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, where he conceived of the annual Friends fundraiser “Crème de la Crème,” which started in 2001.

Pettersen was recently honored at the 2012 Crème de la Crème event, and the Cedar Falls City Council recently approved naming the Dry Run Creek Plaza on College Hill as Pettersen Plaza in honor of Hugh’s contributions to the community.

The UNI School of Music wishes to extend our warmest thanks to Hugh for his continued support and art advocacy, and we congratulate him on his recent awards and acknowledgements!

Friend of the School of Music: C. Hugh Pettersen

The UNI School of Music wishes to acknowledge one of our extraordinary friends this year. C. Hugh Pettersen is an outstanding supporter of music at UNI. We are excited to share a little bit about him with you.

C. Hugh Pettersen never seeks the limelight, but with a personal history so filled with deeply supportive and groundbreaking efforts in the arts – it’s hard not to shine a light on him. Pettersen, a long-time influential College Hill business owner and resident, has been a supporter of the School of Music and arts in the Cedar Valley for years.

Pettersen owned The Duke, a College Hill men’s clothing store, for many years, and later the Henry W. Myrtle Gallery. He was the founding director of the College Hill Arts Festival, co-founder of the College Hill Neighborhood Association and the College Hill Merchant & Professional Association, and behind such traditions as the annual College Hill tree lighting ceremony. Pettersen was also a board member of the Hearst Center for the Arts, and the Friends of the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, where he conceived of the annual Friends fundraiser “Crème de la Crème,” which started in 2001.

Pettersen was recently honored at the 2012 Crème de la Crème event, and the Cedar Falls City Council recently approved naming the Dry Run Creek Plaza on College Hill as Pettersen Plaza in honor of Hugh’s contributions to the community.

The UNI School of Music wishes to extend our warmest thanks to Hugh for his continued support and art advocacy, and we congratulate him on his recent awards and acknowledgements!