Fall 2012

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

University of Northern Iowa. School of Music.

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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.

One of the most significant aspects of the culture of the UNI School of Music is the ability of professors 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.

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.

Dear Friends,

Funds for this publication are provided by the UNI School of Music, the UNI Foundation and the UNI Office of Alumni Relations.

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The School of Music resides within the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, Joel Haack, Dean.

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The University of Northern Iowa

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Instrumental Concerto Competition

Experiences like the one above continue to motivate students to dream about future possibilities and events that will shape or enhance their lives. Inside this newsletter, you will read about the continuing accomplishments of our students, alumni and faculty. From teachers in the public schools, to those performing music locally, nationally or around the globe, or those working successfully in the corporate world, you will find that we are proud of their ongoing successes and achievements.

We look forward to our continuing leadership role as the “music education” school in the state of Iowa and the United States. With state-of-the-art facilities, our stellar music education, performance, theory, music history, composition and expanding liberal arts programs in jazz studies, performing arts management, music technology and pedagogy are making a difference in the lives of students. Our quest to be a “national model of excellence” in the heartland of America is alive and thriving.

Please join us and visit Cedar Falls on your next journey in Iowa. We would love to welcome you to campus.

Sincerely,

John Vallentine

Professor & Director

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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 Hearst 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 $10.2 million 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.
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, Cremona, Brescia, and Arse (Milano). Concert venues included the PalaBrescia in Brescia, the Teatro Parrocchiale in Arse 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 Schreibleman 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 alumni 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

University of Northern Iowa

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. Most 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 freshman English education major Jacob Ferguson 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.uni-bleeclub.com.

Editor’s note: Thank you to John Wiles, Dylan Keller and Jacob Ferguson 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 Meyer 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 Enrichment 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 Racher, bassoon; Yo-Ting Su, horn; and Hunter Capoccioli, contrabass.
Jazz Band One’s release “Let Go” was met with critical acclaim. Reviewer Jack Bowers from “Tally 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.”

Stories of Jazz Studies

his year 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 Bowers from “Tally 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.”

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he 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 National Association of Schools of Music is the accreditation of education programs in music, including the establishment of curricular standards and guidelines for specific degrees and credentials. NASM is recognized by the United States Department of Education as the agency responsible for the accreditation of all music curricula.

In response to the Commission action, John Vallentine, director of the UNI School of Music, stated, “Our faculty members are very pleased with the outcome after completing an extensive Self-Study and being assessed by NASM evaluators. The visitors observed our students and faculty on campus and assessed their teaching and performance in classrooms and rehearsal halls. We are extremely proud of this continuing recognition of the success of our students and faculty at UNI.”

In addition to the reaccreditation, 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 multiple 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 music history from the University of California, Berkeley and a Ph.D. in musicology with a second field in historical performance practice from the University of Oregon. Her dissertation, “The Music and Liturgy of Kloster Preetz: 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 Cantus 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 Repertory and its European Context’ (2006) and in ‘Continuists: papers read at the 13th meeting, Niedersachsen, 2006’ (2009).

Alison’s works in progress include a monograph on the music and liturgy of Kloster Preetz, 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.

Northern Iowa Wind Symphony, Varsity Men’s Glee Club, Jazz Band One, UNI Opera Ensemble, Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, UNI Singers, including faculty artists Sean Botkin, John Hines and Randy Grabowski.

As always, the end of the concert is only the beginning of the festivities. The Road to Excellence!

Cordially invites you to attend the School of Music’s 120-year history on Friday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Get ready for a celebration as we commemorate UNI’s School of Music.

Donor categories are as follows:
- Benefactors - $150 to $299 (up to two complimentary tickets)
- Patrons - $300 to $499 (up to four complimentary tickets)
- Underwriters - $500 to $999 (up to eight complimentary tickets)
- Guarantors - $1,000 to $1,499 (up to 16 complimentary tickets)
- Patrons - $300 to $499 (up to four complimentary tickets)
- Benefactors - $150 to $299 (up to two complimentary tickets)

You won't want to miss it!
UNI Opera and the GBPAC present ‘The Magic Flute’

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.”

“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-cast (ranging from sophomores to graduate students), including Mackenzie Whitney and Juan Ahmadah 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 Wiles, conductor) 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.

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, UNI New Horizons Band, Kindermusik, UNI Children’s Choir and UNI Community Music School are bringing music to the lives of many eager community musicians.

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 Children’s Choir (UNICC) concluded the 2011-12 season with much success. The ensemble, consisting of second-through eighth-grade students from throughout the Cedar Valley, was comprised of more than 100 singers. Due to the large enrollment, the group was divided into two smaller ensembles (the Panther and Purple Choirs) and assistant director Lindsay Marks was hired. Marks currently teaches kindergarten through eighth grade general music at St. Edward School in Waterloo. Both choirs performed separately and as one large combined choir. Proud UNICC parent Joy Tjarks noted, “My daughters cannot wait for UNICC rehearsals each week!”

UNI students and faculty perform Mozart’s Die Zauberflöte

The Magic Flute is also a comedy!”

“I am very pleased to have had the performing arts departments of the school more closely collaborating this year. I continue to think of UNI as ‘win-win’ for the young singing students and the college students. They benefit from each other in so many ways.”

Editor’s note: Thank you to Cathy Craig, Cindi Mason and Michelle Swanson for their contributions to this article.
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 Annette India. 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 Camera, 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 UNI 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 an active member of the UNI Opera Ensemble since starting at UNI. She is a two-year division winner of the National Association of Teachers of Singing Auditions as well as a recipient of the Fort Dodge Choral Society Scholarship. She is also the School of Music representative to the Dean’s Student Advisory Board.

In 2011, Abi Coffier, flute, was awarded the top honor at the UNI School of Music Instrumental Concerto Competition Finale. In the summer of 2006, Miyazawa Young Artist Abi Coffier 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 Works, 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 Etzchberger of Waterloo earned second place; Etzchberger 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, Kylia Kjelsdath of Sioux City earned third place; Kylia is a student of Jean McDonald.

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

Additional student accomplishments include:

- David Hoolber was awarded the Beth 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, Colo., in January.

- Abi Coffier, second-year graduate student (M.M. flute performance), was recently selected as the second alternate in the National Flute Association (NFA) Young Artist Competition.

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 reunion. Know 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 taking 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 Northern Iowa Today, your UNI Alumni Association is the place to make it all happen. Let us know how we can help. Email info@unialum.org, call 888-UNI ALUM or visit www.unialum.org.

Alumni Association membership dues provide all these services and more. Join today at www.unialum.org!
2011-2012 was another exciting year in the School of Music, drumming up interest among guest artists and clinicians visiting and sharing their talent and experience with School of Music students and faculty. Throughout the year, guests took part in master classes, interactive discussions, these guests and master of music offered students a world of opportunity to find out why choosing music is their life’s work.

Many of our guest artists were able to join us thanks to the generosity of the Dorothea and Robert W. Dean Visiting Artist Fund. The School of Music continues to extend its gratitude for the support of such organizations as the Rockefeller Foundation, the MacDowell Colony, the American Conservatory Theatre, the French Minister of Culture, and Reader’s Digest/Lila Wallace Foundation.

A look back at our visiting artists

**October 2011**

October was full of exciting guest artist visits, including the Drl. 4 visit of clarinetist 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 oboe at the School of Music at the University of Iowa, and is also on the faculty of the Preuic 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 her career as a soloist, teacher, chamber and orchestral musician on an international level, having been a featured across the United States, Europe, Central and South America. Believance 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). The Esposito/Bellavance Duo was 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 NEA’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 2011 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 Shinsel 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 Meadowmount School of Music, where she teaches viola, chamber music and professional orchestral audition preparation.

November’s exciting guest artist roster was completed when Zodica Ensemble visited in free, comprised of reedsman 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 music from the 1990s, and their collective classical background.

**December 2011**

The spring semester began with guest bassoonist Ricardo Ramirez performing a recital performance. Born in Brazil, where he first studied the bassoon and performed professionally during the 1970s, Ramirez studied in France to where he was awarded a First Prize from the Paris Conservatory, and studied with the world renowned French bassoonist Maurice Fleury. Ramirez has performed extensively with many of the most important period orchestras in Europe today, such as Le Concert Spiritual, and le petite Bande, and his recent return 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 a choral master for the Kentucky Opera and Saint George Church in Louisville, and a faculty of Bellarmine University and has given recitals throughout the United States.

The annual Northern Festival of Bands was held on Feb. 2, featuring guest conductors Claudio Ro and Lázaro Marosi. Ro is a visiting assistant professor of music at Kenyon College in Ohio, where he conducts an academic wind ensemble. He has a diploma in trombone performance from the Luna Marissen 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 was an assistant conductor of the Hungarian Central Army Orchestra. Following his professional career in Hungary, Marosi earned a M.M. in conducting from the University of Florida 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, composer. Apfelbaum was the featured guest artist at this year’s 61st annual Sinfonia 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 and respected artist in the avant-garde jazz and world music scene having performed and recorded with the ensemble The New York Hieoglyphics.

February’s guest artist visits wrapped up with the Feb. 22-23 residency of guest composer Dan Welcher. Welcher has won numerous awards and prizes from institutions such as the Guggenheim 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 Luigi 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 has been a visiting artist at venues such as the Rockefeller Foundation, the MacDowell Colony, the English Chamber Orchestra, the Academy 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 Bourliakov 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.

**April 2012**

The final month of the 2011-12 performance season was packed with exciting guest artist performances and programs. Early April welcomed double bassist Barry Green for a guest artist performance. Green, a native Californian, is an instructor at Indiana University, Purdue University and Eastern Michigan University, and has performed with numerous groups including the New World Symphony, Robert Guillaume and The Moody Blues.

The exciting guest artist performances and programs continued through the month, with exciting guests such as conductor and associate professor and Head of the String Department at Ball State University, Susan Rider appeared as guest artist at Muskingum. She was joined at her recital alongside faculty artist (and Rider’s former teacher) Randy Grabowski. Rider is a trombonist and is a member of “The President’s Own” Marine Band. She attended UNI and Indiana University. She has been a part of a large number of performances and recordings with the UNI Wind Ensemble. She has been featured as a soloist with the UNI Wind Ensemble. She has performed and recorded extensively with the UNI Wind Ensemble. She has performed and recorded extensively with the UNI Wind Ensemble.
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.
- Served 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 Johnathy Mathis, and as principal oboist with the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony.
- Served 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 14 events and 12 professional live and studio recordings in 2011-12.

Sean Betkin, associate professor of piano
- Performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at 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, with Orchestra Iowa and Minnesota and with Orchestra del Teatro Lirico di Cagliari, Italy.

Melinda Boyd, assistant professor of music history
- 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, instrutor 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 Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra.
- Served on several School of Music committees.

Christopher Buckholz, 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 Pienso Big Band and Johnny Mathis.
- Celebrated five years of service at UNI this year.

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

Kevin Droo, 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 “Watch What We Say: Effect of ‘Idea Attribution’ and ‘Manipulation’” 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.

Angelotta 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.
Jeffrey Funderburk, professor of tuba/euphonium
• Composed and performed a new work with Sandy Nordahl titled Para Para Logic Electronica.
• Performed as second tuba on the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra’s performance of Symphony Fantastique.
• 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 35 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.

Randi 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 Mack and the Iowa State Games 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 GEFAC’s Crème de la Crème.
• Celebrated 26 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 Hoguecamp, 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 drum solo with UNI Jazz Band One.
• Served as host to guest artist Nani 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.

Leslie Morgan, associate professor of voice
• Served on several professional committees in the School of Music in 2011-12.
• Supported many honors 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 Acoustical Model at the Savoy conference at Bern Conservatory in Switzerland.
• Served as jury member on early music at the Conservatoire Regional in Rennes, France.
• For more on Racho’s achievements in 2011-12, please see page 18.

University of Northern Iowa

Alan Schmitz, associate director of undergraduate studies and professor of music theory and composition
• Celebrated the release of his album “Nineteens Timflow” on Ravello Records, and the publication of his composition “Tango Fantasy” for viola and guitar by Veritas Musica.
• Directed undergraduate advising activities for music majors and minors.
• Served as chair of two and member of six School of Music committees, and three additional university/professional committees.

Jonathan Schreiber, professor of composition/theory
• Celebrated the performance of his original compositions and arrangements at the November 2011 faculty recital of Jeffrey Brich and the September 2011 Scholarship Benefit Concert at UNI, as well as the premiere of his work “A Tail Cometea Vagabonde” at the World Saxophone Congress in Scotland in July 2012.
• Coordinated five recitals at UNI as well as a weekly composition seminar.
• Served as member of 11 School of Music committees, and as a member of the Society of Composers.

Yu-Ting (Tina) Su, associate professor of horn
• Published her arrangement of “Three Bizet Songs” for horn and piano on Veritas Musica Publications.
• Performed as guest artist in New York and Taiwan, and was featured on Iowa Public Radio in October.
• 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.

Emily Dickinson Songs

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

Dayan Meyer, instructor and conductor of choruses
• 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
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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, Fla.

School of Music

Eminata Series which Wiles coordinated.
• Served as men’s choir repertoire and standards chair for the Iowa Choral Director’s Association and as member on several School of Music committees.

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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 a few of them and their current projects and travels.

Marlita Matheson – Marlita wrote to us to share stories of her travel this year. She spent Christmas in Hawaii with her son Dave. Matheson also spent time in California visiting with UNI alumnus Ja Hyoeng Koo, (B.M. ’85, M.M. ’88); Renee Rapier (B.M., ’09, M.M. ’11); and Sheeri Escovedo (B.A. ’06). In the fall, Marlita 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 theaters, and worked on improving her golf game this summer.

Bill Shepherd – Bill wrote to let us know 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 trombone workshop
University of Northern Iowa

The School of Music always loves to hear from our graduates. Success stories, new productions and 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!

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1950s
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Community Music and Dance Academy. She is clarinet instructor at UMKC Kansas City, Mo., ensemble and taught music history. Where he conducted their concert wind 2011-12, he was visiting assistant professor. Orchestra. He often enjoys performing as principal trumpet of the Beijing Symphony 2010, Christian was offered a position as Fine Arts Camp in summer 2010. In fall, she joined big brother Parker.

'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 Ban gent, 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. In fall, 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 UMKC Conservatory of Music, and is married to Aaron McNally, B.A., '02. She is clarinet instructor at UMKC Community Music and Dance Academy.

'08 Stephen Fish, B.M., Cedar Falls, Iowa, University of Northern Iowa School of Music 

'10 Bobby Williams, B.M., Bettendorf, Iowa, is director of two vocal jazz ensembles and one concert ensemble at Pleasant Valley High School. “Jazz Etc....” performed at Best of Iowa Jazz Championships, and along with “Tribble Makers” and Concert Choir, received Division I ratings at state contests. He teaches private and vocal students 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 Iowa School 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


Births


'08 Jason Shadrick, M.M., and Cindy (Schlot) Shadrick, M.M., ’08, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, daughter Layla Kay Shadrick born Nov. 11, 2011, joins big brother Parker.

The School of Music is always proud to hear about the success and accomplishments of our alumni. We are excited to announce that four trombonists, all of whom studied under Professor Emeritus Jon E. Hansen, for their remarkable achievements as professional performers.

James Miller (B.M. ’89) is the associate principal trombone 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. Miller earned his bachelor of music education degree from the University of Northern Iowa and his master of music degree from the Juilliard School, where he was a scholarship student of Per Brevig. His playing experience includes performances with the Silk Road Ensemble, the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra, Ensemble ST-X, the Michael Buble Big Band and a variety of jazz, rock, ska and Latin ensembles. He has been a participant in the Mainly Mozart Festival, the Aspen Music Festival and the Ojai Music Festival as well as being featured on the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s Green Umbrella series. As a composer, he has had world premieres in New York’s Lincoln Center and continues to perform his own works in solo performances throughout the country. He serves on the faculty of the California Institute of the Arts and the University of California, Los Angeles.

A native of Iowa, bass trombonist John Engelkes (B.M. ’78) joined the San Francisco Symphony in 1981. Prior to his arrival in San Francisco, Engelkes was a member of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and has also performed with the Minnesota Orchestra. When Engelkes was twenty-two and still an undergraduate, he won a position with the Florida Solar Orchestra and stayed there for a year, after which he pursued a master’s degree at Northwestern University. At Northwestern, he studied with Frank Crisafulli and Edward Kleinhammer with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. While in Chicago, John performed in the Northwest Wind Ensemble, the Northwestern Symphony, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and the Lagoon Pops. 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 prize 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 recitals 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 Boston International Festival. He is an honors graduate of both UNI and the New England Conservatory of Music.

JoDee Davis (B.M. ’80, M.M. ’83) 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 Orchestrass 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 fine arts in 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!

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