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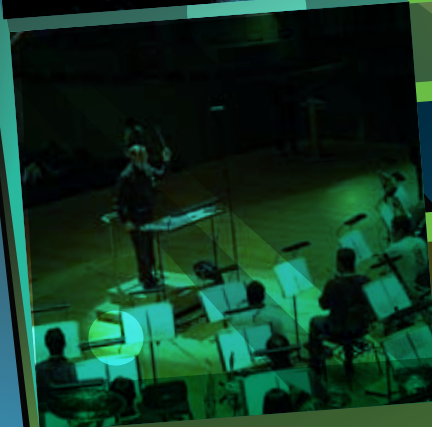




WESTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

school of music

THE
**PERFECT
PITCH**
TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN



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Dear Friends,

You will be pleased with the contents of the 2011 Perfect Pitch. It represents the stories of our students, staff, faculty, and guest artists during the past year. I think you will be impressed by our many activities.

These articles are evidence of the School of Music's growing national reputation. Our music program is also very active in the Kalamazoo community as a generous collaborator. And, we continually examine our curriculum to provide optimal opportunities for our students to enhance their sensitivity, understanding, and respect for the global community.


Our students inspire, too, as both young artists and citizens. This past year, School of Music ensembles worked hard to raise funds for charitable organizations. The University Choirs under the direction of Dr. Ronnie Oliver collected \$2,575 for the Red Cross Japanese Relief Fund. Students raised money through penny wars, cookie sales, individual donations, and audience contributions. The Bronco Marching Band under the direction of Dr. David Montgomery joined 17 other college marching bands in a halftime show dedicated to the fundraising campaign "Marching for Hope" to combat Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease. The national effort raised \$157,000 and made it possible for the ALS Association to provide wheelchairs, oxygen machines, and funding for research. In the past, BMB has helped Habitat for Humanity, contributed to Loaves and Fishes, provided a team for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, supported Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and even adopted a kindergarten class and read to them on a weekly basis.

Clearly, music students possess a sense of responsibility to make positive, constructive differences in the civic life of our communities.

A student-centered environment is foremost in the minds of our faculty and staff. The interdependent nature of our School of Music community is principal to our culture, and because of this, we take pride in serving our students through encouragement, personal attention, and a high level of instruction.

As always, we remain grateful to you, our donors, patrons, and families for supporting our mission in a variety of ways.

Best wishes,



David Colson, Director

What's NEW?



WMUSIC SHOWCASE SPECTACULAR CONCERT FUNDS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Western Michigan University's internationally recognized School of Music will present a scholarship benefit concert featuring its celebrated student and faculty ensembles at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 2, in Miller Auditorium.

The "WMusic Showcase Spectacular" is open to the public and will include performances by Gold Company, University Symphony Orchestra, WMU Choirs, University Jazz Orchestra, University Symphonic Band, Western Wind Quintet, Western Brass Quintet and Bronco Marching Band, among others. This fall's concert is scheduled for Sunday, October 2, and promises to be bigger and more exciting than ever.

All seating for the "WMusic Showcase Spectacular" is general admission. Tickets are available through the Miller Auditorium Ticket Office at (269) 387-2300 or toll free at (800) 228-9858. Admission is \$15, \$12 for senior citizens, and \$5 for students with a valid Bronco Card. All proceeds will support WMU School of Music student scholarships.

NEW MUSIC TO COMMEMORATE SCHOOL'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

The School of Music has launched a commissioning program that will generate new music commemorating the 100th anniversary of WMU's music program. Western's Department of Music began in 1913 with the naming of Professor Harper Maybee as its first department chair.

The School of Music has selected a first-round group of five composers including WMU alumnus Dennis DeSantis to compose a new work for the Percussion Ensemble; WMU alumnus and part-time faculty member John Griffin will write for the New Music Ensemble (*Birds On A Wire*); Peter Scott Lewis will complete a new piece for the Merling Trio; Andrew List has been commissioned by the Western Wind Quintet and *Birds On A Wire*; and Pierre Jalbert will compose a new piece for the Western Brass Quintet.

Other ensembles and composers will be announced as future commissioning projects develop.

WMUK AND SCHOOL OF MUSIC COLLABORATION TO PRODUCE JAZZ CURRENTS

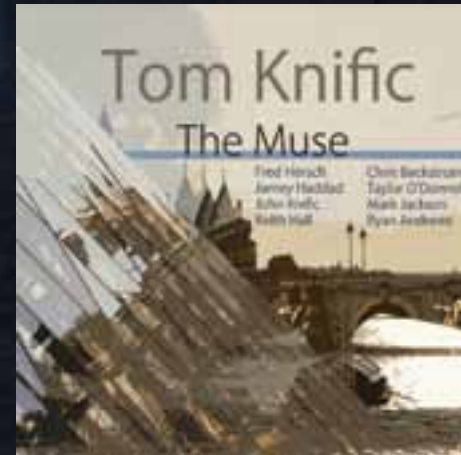
WMUK and the School of Music are collaborating to produce a new jazz show featuring School of Music students, faculty, and guest artists.

WMU jazz drum professor Keith Hall will host *Jazz Currents*. Hall, a 1994 graduate of the WMU School of Music, is extremely excited about the opportunity to showcase the wonderful music being created by the award-winning students and faculty of the Jazz Studies Area. In addition, there will be engaging interviews with world-renowned guest artists, in-studio performances, and a diverse selection of jazz recordings. This exciting new show will reach out to the Kalamazoo region to share the gift of jazz music and expose the public to the remarkable talent cultivated in the WMU Jazz Studies program.

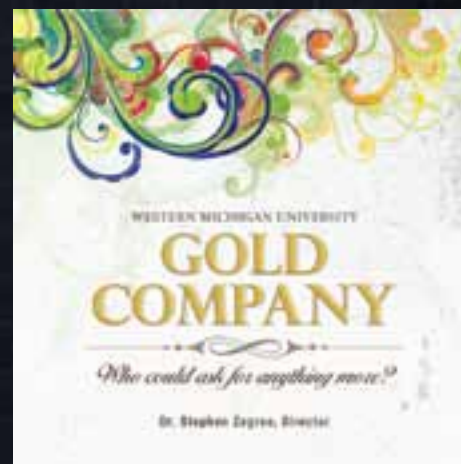
Jazz Currents will strive to educate, entertain, and connect musicians and listeners through the rich heritage and exciting future of jazz. *Jazz Currents* will begin airing in the fall of 2011.

WMU MUSICIANS RELEASE NEW RECORDINGS

Tom Knific's fourth solo CD, *The Muse*, was released at a concert on Tuesday, February 22. The new recording explores a world of influences through Knific's original compositions as well as unique takes on Lennon and McCartney songs. The CD showcases pianist Fred Hersch, and WMU alumni singers Taylor O'Donnell and Mark Jackson. Also featured is the Tom Knific Quartet, which includes WMU alumni Chris Beckstrom, saxophone; Keith Hall, drums; and Ryan Andrews, percussion; and son John Knific, piano. The CD is released by Azica Records and distributed by Naxos.



After 3 years of studio work, Gold Company has released a new CD: *Gold Company: Who Could Ask For Anything More*. The CD features 15 new arrangements and compositions written especially for Gold Company by stellar arrangers including Darmon Meader, Michele Weir, Roger Treece, WMU Professor Duane Davis, and WMU alumni Ly Tartell, Mark Jackson and Tim Brent. The new CD is available through the Gold Company website in addition to iTunes and CD Baby.



"MUSIC BETWEEN THE WARS" FIRST-EVER ALL-SCHOOL CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The School of Music is proud to announce the success of its first-ever chamber music festival. The newly organized event presented three unique concerts featuring student and faculty chamber groups on Saturday, April 2, 2011. Showcasing talent and resources from all areas of the school, the half-day marathon of chamber music was masterfully conceived, promoted, and organized by horn professor,

Lin Foulk. The theme of the festival, "Music Between the Wars," spotlighted repertoire from the 1920s and 1930s, reflecting sentiments in the age of prohibition, depression, jazz, gangsters, the roaring 20s, the stock market crash, the dust bowl, the New Deal, cabaret, radio, film music, and neo-classicism. All three concerts were free and open to the public.

Next year's all-day festival, "Chamber Music of the Americas," is scheduled for Sunday, April 1, 2012 in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

NEW COURSES TO ROLL OUT IN 2011-12 ACADEMIC YEAR

Professor Dan Jacobson will lead "Dalton Wed@7 p.m.: Live and Interactive!" This event takes place on nine Wednesdays each semester and integrates a classroom experience with a public concert. Beginning at 7 p.m., a pre-concert talk/conversation hosted by Dr. Jacobson is followed by a 7:30 p.m., 75-minute performance with no intermission. Additional Web content will be available to participating Music Appreciation students and the public as well. This variety-filled series will showcase guest artists and School of Music musicians. Admission is very affordable: \$5 for students, \$10 for seniors, and \$12 for adults. one hundred percent of admission fees will support music scholarships.

Also slated to be offered in Fall 2011 is "Music of the Caribbean Coasts." Team-taught by Professors Stanley Pelkey and Martha Cuncell-Vargas, this class will expand opportunities for music students to experience another variety of World Music.

"Audio Culture" will be offered as a new Lee Honors College course in Spring 2012 and taught by Dr. David Montgomery. Over the last century a new audio culture has emerged, a culture of musicians, composers, sound artists, scholars, and listeners attentive to sonic substance, the act of listening, and the creative possibilities of sound recording, playback, and transmission. This culture of the ear has become particularly prominent since World War II through advancements in electronic technology. "Audio Culture" will seek to map the aural and discursive terrain of a large cross section of music from the last 100 years.

Also in Spring 2012, Dr. Deanna Swoboda will offer "Creativity and Leadership." In the past several years the School of Music has examined the role of entrepreneurship in music and has presented workshops and symposia regarding its role as a necessary skill for the 21st Century musician. This new course cultivates professional development, encourages creativity, and seeks to enhance the thinking required to identify opportunities and measure risks. "Creativity and Leadership" will also address effective communication skills and the latest business trends in the field.

In the 2011 Summer Sessions, two online courses will be inaugurated. "Songwriting and Notating Music" is taught by Dr. Ken Smith and will give an opportunity for students to express their creative aspirations while learning fundamentals necessary for understanding the construction of music. "Your Brain On Music" is led by Professor Ed Roth and will explore neuroscience and the brain's impact and response to sonic input.



School of Music
www.wmich.edu/music



WELCOME

New Faculty Members



Dr. Kimberly Dunn Adams was appointed the School of Music's new Director of Choral Activities in February 2011, and will begin this coming fall. She received the Master of Music degree in choral conducting from the Yale School of Music, where she studied with Marguerite Brooks and Simon Carrington. She also holds both a Bachelor of Arts in religion from Oberlin College and a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance from Oberlin Conservatory. She received a doctorate in choral conducting with a minor in music theory at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, where she studied with Beverly Taylor and Bruce Gladstone.

In the summer of 2010, Adams was one of twelve conductors selected to participate in the conducting masterclass at the Oregon Bach Festival, where she studied with Helmut Rilling. In 2005, Adams took Second Prize at the American Choral Directors Association National Conducting Competition, Graduate Division. In 2004, she was a fellow in orchestral conducting at the Conductor's Institute at the University of South Carolina. She has also received various academic awards, including the Lorna Wendt Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Wisconsin, the Hugh Giles Prize and the Hugh Porter prize from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, and several awards from Oberlin College.



Dr. Christopher Biggs will be professor of Digital Composition in the School of Music starting fall 2011. Biggs has received degrees from the University of Missouri – Kansas City (D.M.A.), the University of Arizona (M.M.), and American University (B.A.). He has studied music composition with James Mobberley, Paul Rudy, Chen Yi, Zhou Long, Joao Pedro Oliveira, Dan Asia, and Craig Walsh. As a professor he has taught music composition, electronic music courses, audio technology, orchestration, music theory, and computer programming for musicians.

Biggs's music has been presented across the United States and Europe, as well as in Latin America and Asia at conferences, festivals, and recitals. He received the 2008 Missouri Music Teacher's Association composer of the year, the 2009 SEMAUS/ASCAP first place award, and the 2011 Truman State/Macro Composers Competition award and commission. His first music release, *Metatexts*, is available through major online music retailers. Biggs is also a co-founder and board member of the Kansas City Electronic Music and Arts Alliance (KcEMA). He is a member of Quadrivium, a Kansas City-based ensemble dedicated to the performance of new music for flute, clarinet, cello, and piano, and performs with Mauricio Salguero in a clarinet and electronic music duo called electro<>acústico.

THE WORLD COMES TO THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC



PIANIST AND COMPOSER FRED HERSCH PERFORMS AND LEADS MASTER CLASSES

The School of Music at Western Michigan University has maintained a unique and special relationship for many years with internationally recognized jazz pianist and composer Fred Hersch.

Visiting Artist Fred Hersch presented two residencies (October 24–27 and February 20–23) at the School of Music during the 2010–11 academic year. During his residency, Hersch gave piano lessons to WMU jazz piano students; coached jazz ensembles as well as chamber groups who prepared and performed his original compositions; and performed for the Jazz Appreciation class. In addition, Hersch performed a duo concert with outstanding senior and graduate jazz students in his annual “Fred Hersch and Friends” recital, where he collaborates with outstanding jazz singers and instrumentalists nominated by the WMU Jazz Faculty.

Hersch’s new CD, *Alone at The Vanguard* (Palmetto Records), features Hersch as solo piano artist at the famed NYC jazz club. Hersch is the first-ever pianist to be given a solo week in the history of the Village Vanguard.

MASTER JAZZ DRUMMER BILLY HART RETURNS TO WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY DRUM CHOIR

By William R. Wood | Kalamazoo Gazette

Master jazz drummer Billy Hart came down on the drum head with so much force – two drum sticks in one hand – it made some people flinch.

The occasion was a master class Sunday afternoon for Western Michigan University’s drum choir at the school’s Dalton Center. A drum choir is a group with multiple drummers.



“Wow,” Hart whispered to himself as he heard the drum choir play.

Hart, who started the group 19 years ago and has come back every couple of years to lecture and play, said he knows of no other such group.

“I’ve never created a group like this again,” he said during a break Sunday. “I’ve never seen this done anywhere else. This is it.”

Hart in 2008 received an award from WMU for excellent service as a music instructor and received proclamations from the State of Michigan and the city of Kalamazoo. His artist-in-residence at WMU has been the longest such arrangement in the school’s history.

Hart, who held another master class on Sunday night, plans to conduct a “listening class” with students at 7 p.m. today.

At the afternoon master class, Hart shared that he has recently played with jazz musicians Fred Hersch and Dave Liebman. In January, he released the CD *68* – a reference to his age and the number of recordings on which he has played. The CD, *Cast The First Stone*, which Hart recorded with The Cookers, is to be released April 12. The WMU visit also has been a reunion for Hart and former student Keith Hall, who is now a music teacher at WMU and teaches the drum choir.

“It is sometimes difficult to begin to mention all the things Billy has done for me,” Hall said. “It is like trying to list everything your parents have done for you. It’s immeasurable.”

Hall was a student at WMU when Hart began his artist-in-residence there in 1994. He studied with Hart that year and played with the drum choir.

“Billy exposed me to so many new things,” Hall said. “He taught me how to think harmonically on the drums and not just play the rhythm. He taught me about the emotion in music, how to enjoy it and create it.

“Billy gave me confidence and was extremely encouraging. He himself is a perpetual student, and this is the spirit I try to pass on to my students as well.”

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED AMERICAN CONDUCTOR LEONARD SLATKIN CONDUCTS SCHOOL OF MUSIC SYMPHONIC BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Internationally acclaimed American conductor Leonard Slatkin visited the WMU School of Music on Friday, November 12, 2010. He conducted the Symphonic Band in the morning followed by a rehearsal of the University Symphony Orchestra. It was a thrilling experience for the students in both ensembles. Numerous faculty, staff, students, and other guests dropped by to watch the famed maestro coach the student musicians.



Leonard Slatkin began his appointment as Music Director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in September of 2008. He was recently named Music Director of the Orchestre National de Lyon, France, beginning with the 2011–12 season. In addition, Slatkin continues to serve as Principal Guest Conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, a post that began in the fall of 2008.

Following a 17-year tenure as Music Director of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, Slatkin became Music Director of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C. in 1996. Other positions in the United States have included Principal Guest Conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra, where he founded their



"Sommerfest"; first Music Director of the Cleveland Orchestra's summer series at the Blossom Music Festival, a post he held for nine years; Principal Guest Conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra at the Hollywood Bowl for three seasons; and additional positions with the New Orleans Philharmonic and the Nashville Symphony Orchestra.

GRAMMY WINNER, JAZZ VOCALIST KURT ELLING KEEPS THEM GUESSING AT MILLER AUDITORIUM

By William R. Wood | Kalamazoo Gazette

Summoning such great jazz spirits as Joe Williams, Frank Sinatra and John Coltrane, jazz vocalist Kurt Elling hit Miller Auditorium Thursday night [November 11] like a fireball.

Elling has performed in Kalamazoo several times before, but never with a big band. This time, he fronted the Western Michigan University Jazz Orchestra.

The collaboration was probably close to experiencing Frank Sinatra when Sinatra made girls scream, years before the Beatles.

There were no squawks or sour notes from the Jazz Orchestra. This student band wasn't playing around. Elling had mailed ahead several big band arrangements for them to learn, and the students did their homework. Their sound held up, and at times added heft to Elling's greatly crafted, professional sound.

And the easy-going Elling floated from blues to ballads to humorous comments to the audience. "You could be at home watching TV, thinking about how horrible human beings are, but instead you're



here watching some good-looking, intelligent student musicians!" he said to laughs and applause.

Elling, a multi-Grammy winner, sang before about 800 people with both WMU's jazz vocal group Gold Company and the Jazz Orchestra. His jazz phrasing was unpredictable and kept patrons guessing. He tossed some words to guests like darts, other vocals like sailing softballs.

The program kicked into high gear right before intermission, when Elling sang a searing version of "Luck Be A Lady Tonight" with the Jazz Orchestra. The second half included several songs from Elling's CDs done with big band arrangements.

While singing the heavy blues number, "Going to Chicago," popularized by Count Basie and singer Joe Williams, Elling let out a few vocal growls that made several patrons shout, "Whoa!" He offered stunning vocalese to a big band arrangement of "Resolution" from John Coltrane's masterpiece *A Love Supreme* and ended with an uptempo version of "Nature Boy," which brought the audience to its feet with applause.

A new arrangement of the jazz classic "Sing, Sing, Sing" by WMU music professor Scott Cowan for the Jazz Orchestra was another program highlight. WMU music professor Keith Hall sat in on drums and added drive, energy, and drama to the number.

BRITISH COMPOSER HEADLINES SPRING CONFERENCE

Internationally recognized British composer Philip Sparke flew in from London to serve as the guest composer for the 43rd Annual Spring Conference

on Wind and Percussion Music on April 7. During his residency on campus between April 6 and 8, he rehearsed and conducted three of his compositions with the University Symphonic Band, University Concert Band, and the Philip Sparke High School All-Star Band. In addition, he held a seminar for student composers and conductors and found himself in numerous "hallway conversations" in the Dalton Center during his visit. Sparke is well known around the world for his brass band and concert band compositions and has received numerous commissions and compositional awards for his work. His education included studies in composition, piano, and trumpet leading him into writing for European brass band competitions. Following that, he received commissions for additional competitions in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and the USA. His hallmark commission to date came from the United States Air Force Band and produced his arguably finest work so far, *Dance Movements*, performed by WMU's own Symphonic Band in 2009.

Sparke is the latest in a long list of "Who's Who" composers to be featured as part of the Spring Conference on Wind and Percussion Music. The opportunity for both Western students and those from the many participating high schools who attend each year to meet and work with renowned composers is but one of the special programs that highlight the School of Music calendar. This year's guest high school ensemble at the Spring Conference was the L'Anse Creuse Wind Symphony under the direction of Russ Hilton and Adam Kosi.

Sparke obviously enjoyed himself as stated in an email sent to Dr. Robert Spradling, Director of Bands, following the conference:



Dear Bob,
Just a quick note to thank you SOOOOOO much for having me over for the Spring Conference. I had a great time and was deeply impressed by the quality of your programme at WMU! Meeting you and Diana was, of course, a bonus and I hope it's not too long before we can meet up again. And Kalamazoo is my new favourite place!

All best wishes,
Philip

CLARINETIST, SAXOPHONIST AND COMPOSER PAQUITO D'RIVERA TO BE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE NOVEMBER 2011

Paquito D'Rivera will be Artist-In-Residence November 2-4, 2011 at the School of Music. He will rehearse and coach student and faculty chamber ensembles performing his music at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 2, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. On Thursday, November 3, D'Rivera will



perform with the University Jazz Orchestra and Gold Company as part of Miller Auditorium's "Jazz Masters at Miller" series. His residency will conclude on Friday with teaching activities and other master classes.

Throughout his career, D'Rivera's recordings and performances have received rave reviews from critics and have hit the top of the jazz charts. His albums have shown a progression that demonstrates his extraordinary abilities in bebop, classical, and Latin/Caribbean music. D'Rivera's expertise transcends musical genres as he is the only artist to ever have won Grammy Awards in both Classical and Latin Jazz categories.

D'Rivera also plays with "crossover" artists such as the Ying Quartet, Turtle Island String Quartet, cellist Mark Summer, pianist Alon Yavnai, and Yo-Yo Ma. He has performed in venues such as Carnegie Hall and played with numerous professional orchestras across the globe.



wmu music in the national spotlight

GOLD COMPANY PERFORMS AT AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO AND NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Gold Company (wmugoldcompany.com) was honored with an invitation to perform at the American Choral Directors Association National Convention, March 9–12, 2011 in Chicago. Gold Company was one of only three university vocal jazz ensembles invited. Over 5,000 choral directors from throughout the world attended the convention. The 16 singers and 9-piece instrumental ensemble of Gold Company performed before a standing-room-only audience and received an extended standing ovation, after delivering a complex and varied program of sophisticated vocal jazz literature.

Noted composer, arranger and faculty member at Central Washington University Vijay Singh noted:

"ACDA Jazz Night was memorable for many reasons, one of the best being the Gold Company performance! My students were impressed (and most had not heard GC before, but know of its reputation and tradition of excellence). They were especially hip to the professionalism displayed, the great blend, intonation, precision, and variety of charts...As always, you and your students bring such a high level of polish and musicianship...and set the bar very high for the rest of us to aspire to!"

Gold Company also performed at the National Inventors Hall of Fame 2011 Induction Ceremony on May 4, 2011 in Washington, D.C. at the historic Patent Office Building, now the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the National Portrait Gallery.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S BRASS CONFERENCE COMING TO WMU IN 2012

Mark your calendars! The next International Women's Brass Conference will be hosted by Western Michigan University on June 6–10, 2012. Co-hosts and WMU Professors Lin Foulk and Deanna Swoboda are organizing a great event that will feature amazing brass artists, exhibitors, the prestigious IWBC

competition, and a chance for all participants to PLAY at a venue that has been host to numerous international brass conferences. More information may be found at the IWBC website: <http://myiwbc.org>.

JAZZ ORCHESTRA AND GOLD COMPANY FEATURED AT LINCOLN CENTER

The University Jazz Orchestra (Dr. Scott Cowan, Director) and Gold Company (Dr. Steve Zegree, Director) gave featured performances at the famed Allen Room for Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City on Sunday, March 6, 2011. This concert was the culminating performance of the New York City Jazz Festival hosted and produced by Manhattan Concert Productions.

The Jazz Orchestra set included special guest performances by Grammy Award winners Bob Mintzer and Kurt Elling. The concert also included a world premiere of a newly commissioned composition and arrangement by Mintzer created especially for the WMU Jazz Orchestra. The Gold Company set included special guest appearances by five-time Grammy nominee Roger Treece and jazz vocalist Mark Murphy, plus WMU School of Music alumni Ly Tartell and Johnny Rodgers.

Also in attendance were WMU President John Dunn, CFA Dean Margaret Merrion, SoM Director David Colson, Professor Duane Davis, and WMU Visiting Artist and legendary drummer Billy Hart.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC KAPPA KAPPA PSI CHAPTER WINS GOVERNOR'S CUP

The Mu Delta chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi (National Honorary Band Fraternity) won "The Governor's Cup" at the District Convention. The Governor's Cup is a major award given annually to the most outstanding chapter in the North Central District which best exemplifies the ideals of the national organization. The North Central District includes Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, and Kentucky including numerous



"Big Ten" colleagues. The Mu Delta chapter's award is significant in that the WMU School of Music chapter is just a few years old and has already developed an outstanding reputation at the district and national levels. WMU is the youngest chapter to receive this award.

In addition, the WMU chapter co-hosted with Purdue University the District Convention in Indiana last April. The Mu Delta chapter worked diligently all year preparing for the convention along with their dedicated commitments to WMU Bands. The well-attended conference was a big success and one of the chapter members, Joe Norton, was elected to serve as District President of the fraternity.

MUSIC STUDENTS WIN FIVE DOWN BEAT MUSIC AWARDS

- ★ **Jazz Soloist**
Undergraduate College Outstanding Performance
Eric Bowman, trombone
Dr. Scott Cowan
- ★ **Large Vocal Jazz Ensemble**
Graduate College Outstanding Performance
Gold Company
Dr. Steve Zegree

- ★ **Classical Soloist**
Undergraduate College Winner
Youyang Qu, violin
Professor Renata Artman Knific

- ★ **Blues/Pop/Rock Group**
Undergraduate College Winner
Mas Que Nada
Professor Tom Knific

- ★ **Blues/Pop/Rock Group**
Undergraduate College Outstanding Performance
Nich Mueller Group
Dr. Steve Zegree

PREEMINENT SHOWCASE FOR AMERICA'S BEST YOUNG MUSICIANS TO BE TAPED IN DALTON CENTER RECITAL HALL JANUARY 2012

Through award-winning NPR and PBS programs, online media, a national tour of live events, and education programs, From the Top shares the stories and performances of pre-collegiate musicians with millions each week. At 3 p.m. on Sunday, January 15, 2012, From The Top comes to WMU to tape one of its programs in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.



Each program provides a compelling and entertaining window into the world of a diverse group of young people who pursue life with passion, determination, and joy. Broadcast on nearly 250 stations nationwide to an audience of more than 700,000 listeners each week, From the Top is one of the most popular classical music programs on radio.

Hosted by acclaimed pianist Christopher O'Riley, each one-hour broadcast presents five high-caliber performances along with interviews, sketches and games, revealing the heart and soul behind extraordinary young musicians. Now in its eleventh year on air, From the Top is taped before live audiences in concert halls from Boston to Honolulu.

Over the years some of the most prominent figures in classical music have appeared alongside young talent on From the Top. These guest artists include Yo-Yo Ma, Hilary Hahn, Bobby McFerrin, Midori, Béla Fleck and many more. Alumni of From the Top are now popping up in the country's top orchestras and emerging with solo careers.

PROFESSOR LORI SIMS PRESENTS PIANO CONCERT IN NYC AT CARNEGIE'S ZANKEL HALL

Presented by Hausmusik, School of Music faculty pianist Lori Sims performed in Zankel Hall on Saturday, May 7, 2011 at 7 p.m. The program included Copland *Variations*, Weber *Fantasia (Variations)*, Barber *Piano Sonata*, Griffes *Roman Sketches*, C. Schumann *Romance*, and R. Schumann *Fantasy*.

New York Concert Review said this of the performance: "One applauds Hausmusik for paying tribute [to William Masselos] and also for choosing Lori Sims, a pianist of prodigious abilities, to do so. Ms. Sims gave an extremely taut, precise, and intelligent performance... there were many moments of nearly transcendent beauty. Ms. Sims showed that she has a rare gift for bringing audiences closer to these [twentieth-century] works, and it is a gift that should continue taking her to new musical heights."

SCHOOL OF MUSIC GROUP FOR FUTURE MUSIC TEACHERS WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The student chapter of the American String Teachers Association at Western Michigan University has won a prestigious national award from its parent organization.

ASTA presented the local chapter with its 2011 Most Outstanding Student Chapter award. The award was presented at the National American String Teachers Association Convention March 16-19 in Kansas City, Mo.

"These students really deserve it for all of their efforts to keep music and string playing alive and well in schools and communities all over Michigan," says Bruce Uchimura, WMU professor of music and the group's faculty advisor.

Uchimura says the WMU chapter includes a good mix of students pursuing string education, music therapy, music performance and other majors, who share a love of music and string playing and understand the importance of sharing music and developing musical talent.





The group promotes educational activities that fit the theory that “music is for everyone,” including concerts, demonstrations, and visits by guest speakers open to all students. Uchimura says the group’s most significant accomplishment has been to establish a community string program and orchestra in Gaylord, Mich., with the chapter starting a small community music school providing private lessons and a youth orchestra while presenting several fundraising concerts.

Chapter co-presidents James Van Eizenga and Angelica Kalasz say receiving the award is a great honor and kind of like the light at the end of the tunnel. Van Eizenga began building the chapter from the ground up three years ago. He had no funds, but was able to gain support from the student body and Uchimura.

“From then on, it was through the hard work and dedication of all the members that we were able to successfully support our community and others in string education,” Kalasz says. “This award is a reassurance that if you really want something and are willing to put in the effort, you can achieve it. We also think it shows our string education program is alive and well at Western.”

TROMBONE STUDENT IS FINALIST IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

A student in the Western Michigan University School of Music has been named one of three finalists in the International Trombone Association’s bass trombone solo competition for students 18 and under.

Derek Lyp is a freshman from Lambertville, Mich. He will compete to win a \$5,000 bass trombone in the

George Roberts Solo Competition’s final round at the International Trombone Festival June 22–25 in Nashville, Tenn., at Vanderbilt University.

Prior to coming to WMU, Lyp attended private school in Toledo, Ohio, and was chosen as the Ohio first chair all-state trombonist his senior year. “As a high school senior this past year, Derek was highly recruited by and admitted into schools like The Oberlin Conservatory, so there were major music schools wanting him to attend,” says his instructor, Dr. Steve Wolfinbarger. “He’s a great kid and a talented performer, so it will be a pleasure having him in my trombone studio over the next four years.”

This isn’t the first time Wolfinbarger’s students have been selected to compete at the International Trombone Festival. In recent years, Hana Beloglavec won two ITA competitions, while Eric Bowman won one and was a finalist in another. Bass trombonist Evan Conroy also was a finalist.

The ITA’s various solo competitions typically feature the most outstanding trombone talent from the United States and abroad. Lyp is in good company considering his competition. In the final round, he will compete against students representing outstanding trombone programs at Northwestern University and the University of Alabama. One of last year’s finalists, an all-state trombonist from Texas, failed to make the cut this year.



TALENTED TROMBONE STUDENT RACKS UP ANOTHER AWARD

When it comes to winning awards, she just keeps on going.

Western Michigan University’s “Energizer Bunny” trombone student Hana Beloglavec has hit another high note, this time winning a huge trombone soloist competition sponsored by the International Trombone Association.

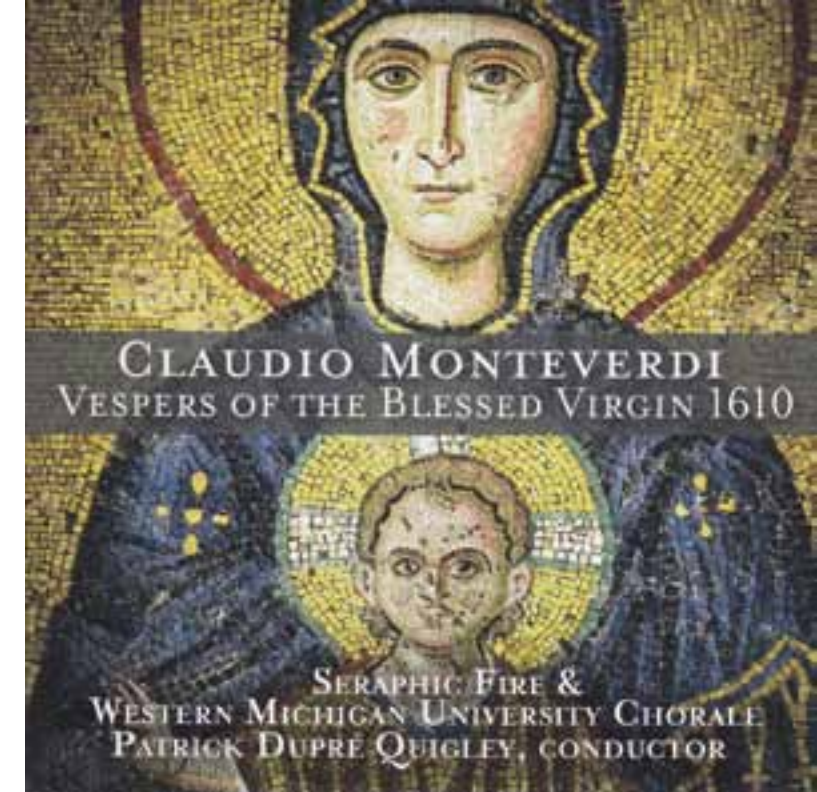
Beloglavec won the Larry Wiehe Trombone Competition in July 2010, beating two other finalists, both from the University of North Texas, the nation’s second largest music school. She was one of three finalists, placing ahead of honorable mention students from such schools as The Eastman School of Music, the University of Minnesota, UCLA, and the University of Texas.

In taking top honors in the competition, Beloglavec won a King 3B tenor trombone valued at approximately \$2,800. She also was featured at a competition winner’s concert in front of many of the 1,000 trombonists from around the world who were attending the International Trombone Festival in Austin, Texas.

Winning the competition is just the latest honor bestowed on the Lee Honors College student, who recently completed her senior year. Beloglavec was accepted as a participant in the competitive 10th annual Bar Harbor Week, an intensive educational and performance experience for select college and high school brass musicians held in late June in Maine.

In March 2009, the Slovenia-born Beloglavec won top honors in the U.S. Army Band’s National Trombone Solo Competition, while in May 2008, the Loy Norrix High School graduate was the “low brass winner” in the esteemed Yamaha Young Performing Artists Competition. She also won the International Trombone Association’s Gilberto Gagliardi Solo Competition for students 18 and under as an incoming freshman before beginning her studies at WMU.

Beloglavec is a student of Dr. Steve Wolfinbarger. In the fall semester, Hana will attend the School of Music at Yale University. In addition to being a prestigious institution, the Yale music program is fully endowed and, as a result, highly competitive. Every student receives a full tuition award and a fellowship stipend.



UNIVERSITY CHORALE AND SERAPHIC FIRE TOP iTunes CHARTS

A compact disc by the University Chorale in collaboration with the professional singing ensemble Seraphic Fire climbed to the top of the iTunes classical recordings charts, displacing new releases by the likes of Yo-Yo Ma and the London Symphony Orchestra.

The recording of Claudio Monteverdi’s 1610 masterpiece, *Vespers of the Blessed Virgin*, also known as the “1610 Vespers,” was released on iTunes in August 2010, immediately landing in the Top 10 classical recordings and prompting National Public Radio to feature the CD and the story behind its creation on the program All Things Considered.

“It’s really an amazing story,” says Dr. James Bass, who left WMU after serving as director of choral studies. “I’m so proud of the students at Western.”

Here’s how it all came about.

In addition to his former job at WMU, Bass serves as chorus master for the Miami-based professional choir Seraphic Fire. Its singers are spread across the country, flying to Miami to come together to rehearse and perform.

Bass came up with the idea of recording Monteverdi’s Vespers with Seraphic Fire’s conductor and founder, Patrick Quigley. First, 2010 marked the 400th anniversary of the 1610 masterpiece’s release.

They also had many of the pieces already in place. They developed a “dream plan.”

“I knew we had a great choir at Western,” Bass says, “and there’s been a significant choral tradition at the school for many years. We wanted to come up with a true collaborative experience between the professional choir in Miami and the college choir that I had at Western.”

Bass and Quigley began formulating their plan in 2008, two years before the anniversary of the publication of Monteverdi’s piece, regarded as one of the greatest choral works of all time. The composition is almost always performed in grand style with an orchestra. But in Monteverdi’s notes, the composer suggests another, smaller option. It was this manner in which Bass and Quigley decided to record it, using only four instruments – lute, theorbo, violone, and chamber organ.

With the help of grant money, including an award from the WMU Cultural Events Committee, Bass and Quigley brought Seraphic Fire to WMU in 2009 as an ensemble-in-residence to perform and record with students. They also brought in Grammy Award-winning producer and conductor Peter Rutenberg of Los Angeles to oversee the project. But where to record?

Bass and Quigley investigated the landmark church chapels in the downtown Kalamazoo area. But passing traffic presented recording problems. Then they found the Holy Family Chapel, a little stone chapel on the former campus of Nazareth College. It was perfect.

With the recording finished, Bass and Quigley set off on the second half of the plan, which called for release of the CD with a concert tour. The tour was launched May 2010 in southern Florida and Mexico City, including performances at the Metropolitan Cathedral, the largest and oldest cathedral in the Americas, and Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico’s Carnegie Hall.

Phase two of the plan also called for release of the CD on a major label that produces classical music.

That turned out to be a hard sell, however, with the likes of EMI, Sony, and Deutsche Gramophone turning down the project. They liked the recording, but didn’t want to take a gamble on a little-known group backed by an ensemble of 41 college singers.

The story might have ended there if not for the opportunity created by the advent of the Internet. Bass and Quigley placed the release on iTunes and posted it on Facebook, inviting all who were on the recording to spread the word. The release began a meteoric rise on iTunes, and the publicity on NPR pushed it to the top.

“Now everybody wants a part of this disc,” Bass says. Bass, who has since moved on to the University of South Florida, is pleasantly surprised at how the CD has taken off.

“We knew that this was going to be a good disc once we got into the second day of recording,” Bass says. “Peter told us, ‘These are some very good singers.’ So we knew we had a good product.”

WOMEN’S CHOIR A PART OF WMU FOR 100 YEARS

By Professor Delores Gauthier

Cantus Femina celebrated its anniversary with a weeklong tour to Florida in May 2010. Karl Schrock (the Cantus pianist), Professor Julie Evans and myself travelled with the choir in three vans – altogether known as the G-Train! In the course of the week, we sang at Blake High School in Tampa, University High School in Orlando, Stetson University, All Saints Episcopal Church in Lakeland, and the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary in Orlando. We encountered very appreciative audiences, beautiful spaces, and some remarkable acoustics! One church was adorned with more roses than any of us had ever seen. There were over 2,000 people at Mass, and many stayed afterwards just to speak with us.

Probably the most memorable experience was at Lakeland. After the morning rehearsal, we went to explore the campus of Florida Southern University. Frank Lloyd Wright designed several buildings, a fountain, and two chapels on the campus. We found



the fountain and reveled in its beauty, but the chapels were closed. Being resourceful women, we hailed the groundskeeper to ask if there was a way we could get in – success! Once inside, we were awestruck by the beauty of Wright’s design.

“The emotional experience and bond that I felt at the Frank Lloyd Wright chapel in Lakeland, Fla., left me absolutely speechless. There wasn’t a dry eye, and it was an amazing feeling to be singing such a beautiful song in such a sacred place with some of my closest friends.” — Jennifer Dziedzic

“The feelings I had singing in the spaces designed by Frank Lloyd Wright were indescribable. With every cadence I felt a chill through my body. Each and every time, it reminded me how fortunate I was to be allowed this opportunity.” — Elizabeth Wood

“With all of these memories, I can truly say that I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to travel to Florida with Cantus Femina. This was an amazing trip that created lifelong friendships and some of the most powerful music experiences I have ever had.” — Jillian Newton

In October, Cantus Femina sang at the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) State Convention held at Central Michigan University. Performances at the convention are based on a blind audition from applicants throughout the state. The concert program included *Auyuituq* (Malcolm Forsyth), a very demanding a cappella piece, *You Begin* (Paul Carey), a beautiful lyric piece accompanied by student cellist Sam Boase-Miller, and *Vivos Voco* (Joan Szymko), a stunning closer with piano and hand bells. The choir was rewarded with a standing ovation.

WESTERN WINDS TRAVEL TO CHINA FOR RESIDENCY AT SICHUAN UNIVERSITY AND THE SICHUAN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

The School of Music’s Western Winds, a chamber winds ensemble comprised of faculty in the wind, brass, and percussion areas and their graduate students, was invited by Sichuan University and the Sichuan Conservatory of Music, both located in Chengdu, China. The WMU group was in-residence in early May to perform and present clinics on chamber winds music.

Ensemble Music Director and Conductor Robert Spradling selected a variety of compositions for performance and clinics as a means of demonstrating a wide range of musical styles and periods. Works by Gabrieli, Mozart, Strauss, Gounod, Jacob, Ewazen, and Kreines were prepared to span nearly five hundred years of wind literature.

The Chinese hosts also arranged for the ensemble to accompany two choruses, one a faculty ensemble and the other a student ensemble, on two folk tunes that are popular in their country. WMU School of Music student Dan Kramer transcribed piano scores into arrangements for the Western Winds that enabled the group to accompany an enthusiastic performance of these tunes.

The Western Winds includes the faculty members of the Western Brass Quintet, Western Wind Quintet, the student members of the graduate brass and wind quintets, and a Percussion Duo, who each performed works separately in their repertoire. Faculty members were asked to do masterclasses and coachings and demonstrate techniques specific to their instruments for students and faculty at the Chinese institutions.

It goes without saying that the ensemble absorbed all the great Chinese culture (and food!) possible during their brief but exciting adventure in Chengdu.



Dani Reynolds was hired in October 2010 as Assistant to the Director in the School of Music. The position opened during the summer of 2010 with the retirement of Joan Bynum, who had served for 33 years under four different directors. Dani's responsibilities include scheduling, travel arrangements, and clerical tasks for the director of the school, keeping records, helping maintain and develop office workflow, and distributing information to the faculty. Dani received a M.M. in horn performance from WMU in May 2010, and holds a B.M. from The University of Iowa in horn and music education. In addition to playing the horn, Reynolds records, arranges and composes music as a hobby, and enjoys sewing and working with power tools.

Matt Jensen received a B.M. in music education from WMU. After teaching music and private lessons in public schools for two years, Jensen returned in the summer of 2010, originally as the Registrar for SEMINAR, the annual summer music camp for high school students. Jensen then transitioned into the role of Concerts Assistant in September 2010 on a term appointment. In his current role, he prepares all School of Music news releases, printed programs, calendars, and advertising, as well as posters and fliers promoting special events. He is also the school's Webmaster, and continues to serve as the Registrar for SEMINAR. A charter member of the Mu Delta chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, Jensen continues working with members and fellow alumni to create a local alumni association. Jensen is also involved as a pit performer, instructor, and drill writer for area schools.

WMU School of Music piano technician **Dr. Yat-Lam Hong** is the most recent inductee into the Piano Technicians Guild Hall of Fame, an honor recognizing his achievements and contributions to the world of music.



Kevin West, Director of Concerts, was selected for a WMU Make-A-Difference Award this past spring. West was recognized for his outstanding service to students and faculty. In the School of Music he is responsible for the planning and coordination of all music school activities including numerous conferences, workshops, tours, clinics, and guest artist appearances, as well as over 450 concert events annually. West is involved in Milwood United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo as a member of the Chancel Choir and the Fine Arts Committee. His professional affiliations include membership in Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia music fraternity and Pi Alpha Alpha, Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Lambda Delta, and Golden Key honor societies. He recently earned a master's degree in public administration. West first worked in the Concerts Office as an undergraduate student.

Born in Shanghai, Hong and his parents fled the Communist takeover and relocated to Hong Kong when he was about 12 years old. He left for the United States to attend college at the Peabody Institute in Baltimore, Md., and later at Indiana University. While completing his master's degree in piano performance at IU, he studied piano structure and technology and became a part-time technician at the IU School of Music. After teaching at Piedmont College for two years, he moved to Cincinnati to begin work on his doctorate in piano performance. In 1970, he interrupted his studies to return to IU as the assistant piano technician. He joined the WMU staff in 1973 as a piano technician. He received his doctorate in piano performance from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory in 1991.

FRUITS of *Collaboration*



FONTANA CHAMBER ARTS AND SCHOOL OF MUSIC PILOT ARTIST-CITIZEN PROGRAM

In collaboration with the WMU School of Music, Fontana Chamber Arts piloted an ensemble-in-residence program called the "Artist-Citizen Fellowship Program." WMU's new music ensemble Birds on a Wire was selected for the inaugural class. The six students comprised the ensemble and its core instrumentation of flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, violin, and cello.

The program allowed the young artists to develop communication skills and produce events that facilitate cultural impact on the community. In addition, each artist-citizen worked a rotation in operations, development, marketing, and education in the Fontana office where they were exposed to the administration of a fully professional arts organization. They assisted with concert performances to gain an understanding of the many details associated with event and concert production as well as the day-to-day administration of a nonprofit arts organization.

The artist-citizens produced their own Fontana-School of Music concert on Friday, March 18, 2011 in Wellspring Theater in the Epic Center. The fellows were responsible for helping to shape the concert program as well as selecting guest performers and composers, and making other artistic decisions.

The program allowed the young artists to develop communication skills and produce events that facilitate cultural impact on the community.

Students from the WMU School of Music serve as piano lab instructors to over 200 students in the greater Kalamazoo area through Gilmore After School Piano Labs programs. Participants are young individuals who would not otherwise have the opportunity to learn to play the piano.

The Artist-Citizen Fellowship Program inaugural class included violinist Abderrahman Anzaldua, a graduate student in performance who hails from Chihuahua, Mexico; cellist Zachary Boyt of Traverse City, Mich., currently pursuing graduate studies in contemporary performance techniques; flutist Dannielle Sturgeon, a senior performance major from Rockford, Mich.; clarinetist Erik Johnson, a senior from Ferndale, Mich., with a double major in performance and composition; pianist Cassandra Kaczor, a sophomore from Cleveland, Ohio, double-majoring in performance and music composition; and percussionist Joseph Tucker of West Bloomfield, Mich., a senior pursuing a double major in performance and recording.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND SCHOOL OF MUSIC COLLABORATE ON CLASSICAL WEDNESDAYS

Classical Wednesdays is a new chamber music collaboration between the School of Music and Kalamazoo's First United Methodist Church. This new series features performances by WMU music students in an inspiring off-campus venue. The area's most talented music students perform and talk about some of the best music written for a variety of small chamber ensembles. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Concerts are mostly held on the last Wednesday of each month during the academic year. The first concert on February 23, 2011 was a huge success and featured musicians from the wind/brass area: Graduate Brass Quintet, Graduate Wind Quintet, Western Horn Choir, Clornio (clarinet, horn, piano) and solo pianist Robert Hjelmstad. The March 30 concert featured Muzika Russe (string ensemble plus piano, organized by student Adam Lenz) performing "A Soviet Sampler." More information about future concerts can be found at: www.linfolk.org/classicalwednesdays.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC STUDENTS SERVE GILMORE INTERNATIONAL KEYBOARD FESTIVAL IN AFTER SCHOOL PIANO LABS PROGRAMS

Creative expression, musical exploration, skill development, self-discipline, and pride are just a few benefits of this program. Students from the WMU School of Music serve as piano lab instructors to over 200 students in the greater Kalamazoo area through Gilmore After School Piano Labs programs. Participants are young individuals who would not otherwise have the opportunity to learn to play the piano. The piano labs are fully equipped with state-of-the-art computer/keyboard equipment. Participants meet twice a week during the school day and have the opportunity for supervised practice after school. The curriculum for this program is aligned with national and state art standards to ensure quality learning. WMU student music therapists are also employed to broaden and expand musical instruction so that all varieties of students may participate.

Plans are underway for next year's WMU music students to participate in a newly designed Gilmore Fellowship program. Students awarded a Gilmore Fellowship will have the opportunity to teach in the After School programs and meet on a monthly basis with the Gilmore's Director of Educational Activities to develop curriculum for community outreach and social change through the arts. Gilmore Fellows will also have the opportunity to intern in a department of their interest within the Gilmore organization and to spend time with the Director of the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC PROFESSOR FUNDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Professor Edward Roth was awarded a grant through the 21st Century Program of Communities in Schools funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The award provides support for his Promise Project, which

Raw analog and digital data are sent wirelessly via a Bluetooth line to a computer to generate music

delivers music therapy services in five elementary schools, four middle schools, and both Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix high schools.

Therapeutic and educational music experiences are delivered by two full-time WMU student interns under Professor Roth's supervision and are directed toward the development of social, emotional, and academic preparedness for success in college.

Graduates from Kalamazoo Public Schools who earn admission to either a four-year or community college will have their tuition paid for up to 100 percent through the Kalamazoo Promise. The music therapy Promise Project's primary objective is to increase the preparedness of students toward earning admission into a university or college, and increase their socio-emotional capabilities to succeed once they arrive on campus.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC PARTICIPATES WITH COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES SENIOR DESIGN PROJECTS

Students Michael McMacken and Matthew Wells, together with their advisor, Professor John Kapenga, in the Department of Computer Science, developed a simpler way for a non-programmer to conduct a performance for the Kalamazoo Laptop Orchestra (KLOrk), including the ability to adjust tempo and other musical parameters through software. The system that was developed solves this problem by extracting variables from a running computer music program and allowing the performers to alter them in real time. In addition, this can allow the conductor to send text and control messages to the ensemble musicians, even the page for them in their online musical score.

Electrical engineering students Linjia Jiang, Yinchong Han, Tze Kang Ng, and Sau Fung Chan worked with advisor Professor Dean Johnson on a sensor-based hand held, multifunction music controller as an alternative to a laptop computer to perform music in KLOrk. This multifunctional controller, smaller than a laptop, detects movements, finger-touch, and combinations of postural maneuvers by users. Raw analog and digital data are sent wirelessly via a Bluetooth line to a computer to generate music; this is made possible by electronic sensors, a programmable driver, and a compatible Bluetooth module.

Evan Gipson and Nicholas Hawkes, also students of John Kapenga, utilized a Wii-mote to create a more interactive atmosphere for KLOrk's live performances. An interface from the Wii-mote to any computer capable of Bluetooth is created using the programming language of Python. The Bluetooth messages are parsed and interpreted by Python and sent over a local connection to the audio programming language currently in use by many laptop orchestras. Simply put, the movements of the Wii-mote get translated into musical gestures.

WMU GRAND CHORUS FEATURED WITH KSO IN VERDI REQUIEM

This past season the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra presented Verdi's *Requiem* featuring the WMU Grand Chorus under the direction of Dr. Ronnie Oliver. Vigorous rhythms, sublime melodies, and dramatic contrasts expressed the powerful emotions of this titanic work. From the terrifying "Dies Irae" to the joyful "Sanctus," the KSO and Grand Chorus penetrated the very soul of the Kalamazoo audience.

The Grand Chorus is the largest choral ensemble at Western Michigan University, involving approximately 180 students. Membership is primarily from the three major vocal ensembles – the University Chorale, Cantus Femina, and Collegiate Singers. Other interested singers from the Kalamazoo and University communities may also participate.

The Grand Chorus has performed with the Western Michigan University Symphony Orchestra and the Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, and Detroit symphonies.



student achievements

Horn player **Kelsey Anthon** attended the Siena Summer Music Festival in Italy. One of only 20 student participants, and the lone horn player, Anthon received daily lessons, studied Italian, performed in concerts featuring mixed chamber music ensembles, and became immersed in Italian culture for the three week program. Anthon received financial assistance from the School of Music and the College of Fine Arts to make her trip a reality.

Graduate student **Abderrahman Anzaldúa** performed the Mozart Violin Concerto No. 5 in June with the "Camerata de Morelia" Chamber String Orchestra in Morelia, Mexico.

Lisa Barnhart, a senior music therapy major, was the recipient of the fall scholarship award from the Michigan Music Therapists Association. Lisa is completing her six month internship at The Lighthouse, a neurological rehabilitation center in Caro, Mich.

Guitarist **Bryan Blowers** and drummer **Eric Busch** with their band, The Bryan Michael Fisher Band, were invited to the International Blues Challenge in Memphis the first week of February.

Trombonists **Eric Bowman**, a senior performance major, and **Nate Musch**, a graduate student majoring in performance, competed in the International Trombone Association's Lewis Van Haney Philharmonic Prize Competition, the competition for aspiring orchestral tenor trombonists. Eric was named first runner up (4th place) and Nate received honorable mention recognition.

Performance major and cellist **Zachary Boyt** is a charter member of the new music ensemble Birds on a Wire and is an apprentice with Fontana Chamber Arts.

Three soloists were named winners of the annual Concerto Competition and performed with the University Symphony Orchestra on the 52nd

annual Concerto Concert in April. The 2011 winners were pianist **Pieter Jacobus Crathorne**, a graduate student from Cape Town, South Africa, pianist **Samantha London**, a graduate student from Baltimore, Md., and violinist **Melissa Taddie**, a sophomore from Strongsville, Ohio.

Sophomore **Christian Euman** competed in the Percussive Arts Society jazz drum set competition (college division) in Indianapolis at the annual PAS convention. He finished second out of three finalists.

Rachel Gasper and **Paul Hendrixson** were awarded MENC's Collegiate Professional Achievement Recognition for dedication to MENC: The National Organization for Music Education and for exceptional service to music education in Michigan and the United States. Gasper has served as state collegiate representative, which included representing Michigan at national conventions, and Paul has served as chapter

president and special projects chair. Of all those nominated nationally, they are in an elite group of only six recipients.



Gold Company received an invitation to perform at the National Inventors Hall of Fame 2011 Induction Ceremony in May at the historic Patent Office Building, now the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the National Portrait Gallery, in Washington, D.C.

Singers **Chelsea Helm, Mary Haskins, Patrick Muehleise,** and **Brian Schneider** were selected by audition to be the solo quartet with the Muskegon Chamber Choir for its performance of Mozart's *Coronation Mass* in January. In addition to a cash prize for each singer, the Voice Area received a cash donation from the Chamber Choir.

Pianist **Robert Hjelmstad** was the collegiate level winner of the Bach Festival Young Keyboard Artists Competition in Grand Rapids. The winners performed on a Grand Rapids Bach Festival concert in March.

Freshman cello student **Kevin Irving** is one of the featured videos on the University's homepage: www.wmich.edu.

Cello performance major **Jasmine James** attended the Aria Summer Music program in Massachusetts as a scholarship student.

Four violin students – **Liya Jin, Ariele Macadangdang, Youyang Qu,** and **Melissa Taddie** – were selected to participate in the Stulberg International String Competition Master Classes with noted violinist Joseph Silverstein.

Angelica Kalasz, a string education major, was hired to be a counselor with the Blue Lake Fine Arts Summer Camp and went to Europe with the Junior High School String Orchestra. She performed with and conducted the group and lead string sectionals.



Dan Kramer, a composition major and tuba player, was named First Place Prize Winner of the 2011 Ralph Taylor Award in Composition. In addition to a cash prize, the award included a performance of Kramer's new composition during Low Brass Day at Marshall University in April.

Mas Que Nada, a student jazz combo, was featured on WMUK Radio's "Jazz Currents," a series of live studio recordings. They also won two consecutive Down Beat Student Music Awards and performed with Michael Philip Mossman this year and Jamey Haddad last year. The members of the group are **Jon Ailabouni** (trumpet), **Loren Battley** (vocals), **Peter Breithaupt** (percussion), **Laura Dubin** (piano), **Evan Hyde** (drums), **Henry Koperski** (saxophone), **Matt Landon** (guitar), and **Jordan Richards** (bass).

graduate awards

Peter Beithaupt received the award for Excellence in Academics/Scholarship. Beithaupt is in the School of Music's first class of Accelerated Degree Path (ADP) students and is completing the Master of Arts in Music degree. One of his nominators said that he is "one of the brightest students I've had the privilege to work with here," and another said his thesis "represents a model synthesis of scholarship and artistry." Beithaupt also received the Department Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award in the School of Music, as awarded by the Graduate College.

The award for Excellence in Teaching went to **Ayako Nakamura**, who is completing her degree in trumpet performance. She was praised for both her classroom teaching and studio teaching, with one faculty member calling her "one of the best GAs I've had here at Western." Nakamura was also honored by the Graduate College with the Department Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award in the School of Music.

Rebecca Findley was given the award for Excellence in Leadership/Service. A student in the Music Therapy program, Findley provided excellent leadership as president of the Student Music Therapy Association. She has continued to demonstrate her leadership skills in the "real world" by being elected as the president of the Michigan Music Therapists organization for two consecutive terms.



Nich Mueller, a sophomore jazz studies major, released his debut album, *All In A Day*.

Graduate music therapy student **Suzanna Peczeniuk** was featured in an article in the October 2010 issue of *Easy Reeding*, the magazine published by Hohner Harmonicas. Peczeniuk is the music therapist at Bronson Children's Hospital, where she makes use of harmonicas in her sessions with patients.

Horn graduate student **Jancie Philippus** has been offered the only graduate teaching position at Brevard for the summer of 2011. The position includes a \$5,000 scholarship. Brevard is a highly competitive summer music program for horn players.

Violin performance major **Youyang Qu** was named the winner of the Orfeo/Schlern Solo Competition and College Winner of the 2011 Down Beat Student Music Award in the Classical Soloist category.

The **Western Horn Choir** toured Grand Rapids in February 2011, performing at St. John's Home and Northview High School. The ensemble also performed for the Classical Wednesdays series at First United Methodist Church in downtown Kalamazoo. In February 2010, the ensemble performed at Bronco Mall (on campus) and gave a performance/clinic at Parchment High School.

senior awards

MCKEE SCHOLARSHIP & LOEW SCHOLARSHIP

Jordan Snellenberger

PRESSER SCHOLARSHIP

Alexander Armstead

MAYBEE SCHOLARSHIP

Heather Ewer

DENNY SCHOLARSHIP

Kirsten Schaffert

ALUMNI NEWS

Jack Adams (BM'76) is Director of Bands at E.J. King High School in Sasebo, Nagasaki, Japan. His distinguished career in the States includes 27 years in three West Michigan public school systems: Newaygo (1976–81), Muskegon (1981–85), and Mona Shores (1985–2003).

Nate Adams (BA'08) advanced to the final round of auditions for the Swingle Singers, based in London.

Andrea Alert (BM'08) received a Tuition Scholarship and a Graduate Assistant position at the University of Northern Iowa majoring in viola performance.

Luanne (Parker) Allgood (BM'75) was featured on NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams. The segment spotlighted her "Creative Living Class" which exposes the homeless enrolled in the Miami Rescue Mission's recovery and regeneration program to the arts and builds self esteem.

Seth Ashby (BA'01) serves on the Board of Gilda's Club Grand Rapids, a nonprofit cancer support organization. He worked on a new comedy festival to benefit Gilda's Club called "LaughFest," which came to Grand Rapids, Mich., in March.

Justin Avery (BM'04) toured with Meatloaf, including a performance on the Jay Leno Show in October.

Jennifer (Shelton) Barnes (BM'90) was hired as Director of Vocal Jazz at the University of North Texas.

Jamilyn Beckstrom (MM'10) received a full graduate assistantship from the University of Utah, where she is pursuing a DMA degree.

Sean Bell (BM'06) released his debut album, *Things Yet Unknown*.

Stephanie Bettig (BM'05) is the Scheduling and Facilities Coordinator at the Chicago College of Performing Arts.



Patricia Billings (BM'08) is a scholarship student at New York University (NYU), pursuing a master's degree in clarinet performance. She studies with Dr. Esther Lamneck and Pascual Martinez of the New York Philharmonic. Patricia is an adjunct faculty member at NYU, teaching lessons and coaching chamber music. She also attended the Imani Winds Chamber Festival in 2010.

Geraldine Boyer-Cussac (MM'06) became Dr. Boyer-Cussac in November. She moved to Virginia Beach shortly after and kept busy working as a vocal coach in Hampton Roads and music directing a Christmas Holiday show, conducting a 12-piece big band in December. She also accompanied *HMS Pinafore* at Christopher News University in the spring and music directed shows with the New Theatre of Chesapeake.

Kristine (Nutting) Bray (BM'85) is Music Director at Superior Central Schools in AuTrain, Mich.

Kyle Cain (BM'09) is teaching vocal music at Muskegon (Mich.) Mona Shores Middle School.

Tara (Hunefeld) Cleveland (BM'09) received the "New Director of the Year" award from the Choral Directors of Arizona, the choral arm of the Arizona Music Educators Association.

Evan Conroy (BM'09) made it to the final round of auditions for the bass trombone position in the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He was one of three finalists.

Jonathan Cook (BM'09) won a piano competition at the University of Michigan and played the Stravinsky Concerto for piano and winds in Hill Auditorium.

Rob Cookman (MM'98) was the Musical Director/Conductor for the *Legally Blonde* tour that came to Miller Auditorium in October. The pit musicians also included alumni bassist **Mark Van Ziegler** (BM'02).

Kathleen Daugherty (BM'00) relocated to a suburb of Houston and is working for the Houston ISD, teaching piano classes to second through fifth grade students in two elementary schools in Houston.

Quincy Davis (BM'99) performed with pianist Aaron Diehl on the Gilmore Rising Stars series in October in Kalamazoo.

Bass trombonist **Evan Dörner** (MM'10) was accepted as a performer into the competitive Pokorny Low Brass Seminar 2010, held at the University of Redlands in California. As a result, Evan worked with and performed for Chicago Symphony Orchestra low brass members Gene Pokorny (tuba) and Michael Mulcahy (trombone), and Detroit Symphony Orchestra bass trombonist Randy Hawes.

Gretchen Eichberger-Kudlack (BS'98) directed the nation's first civic version of Martha Graham's *American Document*, a dance-drama which examines America and the continual conflict between the rights of the individual and society. The production received funding from the Michigan Council for Cultural Arts and Affairs, and was performed in historic venues in northwest

lower Michigan. An alumna of the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, Eichberger recently completed graduate work in historic preservation at Eastern Michigan University.

Bryan Farina (BA'01) was featured in an article on www.prosoundweb.com for his mixing work with the New York Voices.

A song by Down the Line, a band featuring music alumni **Derek Fawcett** (BM'00) and **Dan Myers** (BM'99), was licensed for a Ford television commercial.

Holly Florian (BM'10) is the new K–6 general music and choir teacher at Sandy Hill Elementary School in Jenison, Mich.

Jeremy Fox (BM'99) started doctoral work and a Teaching Assistantship at the University of Miami in jazz composition.

Chris Garrett (MM'89) is Coordinator of Music at Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

K. Dawn (Davis) Grapes (BM'88) is a Special Assistant Professor at Colorado State University. She received the 2010–11 Ogilvy Travel Award from the Center for British and Irish Studies, Boulder for research and study in Oxford

Christine (Helferich) Guter (BM'93) directs the vocal jazz program at Cal State Long Beach. Her group was one of two college groups invited

to sing at the American Choral Directors National Convention in Chicago. The other group was one she has an attachment to: WMU's Gold Company.

The Runner Up, a CD by **Bartosz Hadala** (BM'04), was listed on this year's Grammy ballot.

Mike Harvey (BM'85) performed on *Late Night With Jimmy Fallon* as a member of Ladysmith Snack Mambazo. He was a featured soloist in a performance of Rob Mathes' 18 song piece *At Night A Song is With Me* in Greenwich, Conn.

David Hepinstall (BM'10) was hired as the band director at Plainwell (Mich.) Middle School.

Sean Hill (BM'09) was accepted to graduate school at Arizona State University.

Nayanna Holley (BM'07) performed as a backup singer with Sheryl Crow on the *Late Show With David Letterman*, *Late Night With Jimmy Fallon*, *Good Morning America*, and the *CBS Early Show*. She can also be heard in the Bridgestone Tires commercial for its Blizzak Tires brand — singing "Slip Sliding Away" — and on the 2011 Grammy nominated album *Bom Tempo* by Sergio Mendes.





Holly Holmes Warnock (BM'00) is pursuing a Ph.D. in musicology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and was awarded a scholarship by the Fulbright U.S. Student Program for the 2010–11 academic year. She spent her grant year conducting field research in Brazil, tracking the evolution of the musical movement “Clube da Esquina.” In January, she launched her new website: www.hollyholmes.com.



Keith Horn (BM'99) completed his debut album, *Rock Scissors*, which is available on iTunes. He also launched his website, www.keithhorn.com, and was interviewed for and featured on a website called Bands Like Zappa.

Ben Horton (BM'00) teaches band and choir at Greenfield Middle School in Bakersfield, Calif. In August, he applied for the Mr. Holland's Opus Grant, and from a pool of 1,000 applicants across the country, was selected as a grant recipient. The school received three 4-valve Yamaha euphoniums and a Yamaha double French horn. The choir and band promptly went on to earn unanimous superior ratings at their festivals.

Adam Houk (BM'07) won the one year principal trombone position with the Madison (Wis.) Symphony Orchestra. He has recently freelanced in the Chicago area, and he performs on occasion with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago.

Jevin Hunter (BA'07) teaches at the Musician's Institute in Los Angeles, plays in a corporate band, and is producing/writing a record with a singer/songwriter.

Janelle Hurst (MM'06) is an administrator with the Martina Arroyo Foundation in New York City.

John Joannette (BA'87) helped create a community musical organization called the Pride of Indy Bands in Indianapolis. This organization has a concert band, marching/pep unit, and several smaller ensembles, including a 19-piece jazz ensemble that he directs.

Aubrey Johnson (BM'07) was hired to teach at the Berklee College of Music. She teaches private voice and a class for vocalists on how to make charts and work with a rhythm section.

Ryan Kasperski (BM'10) was hired as the new music teacher at Tahquamenon (Mich.) Area Schools.

Johnaye Kendrick (BM'05) accepted a position as full-time Assistant Professor at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. She continues to sing with Ellis Marsalis, the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, and Nicholas Payton.

Kristin Kenning (BM'04) spent her summer directing *The Ladysmith Story*, a new American opera by Christopher Gable that premiered in Wisconsin.

Cecilia Kozlowski (BM'08) won the principal horn position with the Central Opera Orchestra of Beijing and moved to China in February.

Dave Krosschell (BM'98) has accepted the adjunct trombone position at the University of North Carolina, Pembroke. He has also been a frequent substitute trombonist with the North Carolina Symphony.

Katie LaFleur (BM'10) received a \$2,700 Artist Development Grant from the Kalamazoo Arts Council to attend the European School of Saxophone summer workshop in Gap, France, in 2010. She started graduate school at the New England Conservatory that fall.

Music therapy graduate **Lindsey Landeck** (BM'08) is a full-time music therapist at the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital.

Christine Ledden (MM'10) accepted a job in Northwest Ohio teaching grades 6–12 vocal music and show choir.

SunHee Lee (MM'10) is in her first year of doctoral clarinet studies at Michigan State University. She is in the studio of WMU alumnus **Dr. Justin O'Dell** (BM'99), and a classmate of another Western clarinet graduate, **Cassandra Hibbard** (BM'07), who is completing her doctorate this year.

Diane (Steinberg) Lewis (BM'71) is owner of Universal Child Publishing and Inspiration Time Records.

Pianist **Barbara Lieurance** (BM'98) has been playing in Europe for the past two years with the new music ensemble Antares Project. The ensemble gave its first U.S. concert, in Boston, in July 2010.

Paul Loesel (BM'92) wrote the music for *The Extraordinary Ordinary*, a new production for the Dreamlight Theatre Company in New York City. He is also currently playing *Wicked* nightly on Broadway.

Jeremy Marks (MM'10) is a doctoral student at the University of Texas in trombone performance.

Brian Massey (BM'10) was hired as the new Director of Bands of the Reed City (Mich.) Public Schools.

Andy Mitchell (BM'07) was named an Associate Trombone member of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago for the 2010–11 season.

Samantha Mudge (BM'05), currently teaching at Sunnyside Elementary School in Fayetteville, N.C., was featured in a story on the website of MENC: The National Association for Music Education.

Dan Myers (BM'99) wrote four original songs and arrangements for the new motion picture *Hoodwinked, Too*. He also sings the part of Jimmy Ten Strings, a singing harp in a night club. Alumnus

Aaron McEvers (BM'98) created the horn arrangements.

Kayla Nelson (MM'07) is the new horn professor at the University of North Dakota.

Manna Nichols (BM'07) was cast in the New York Music Theater Festival show *Frog Kiss*, and the cast was featured at the NYMF awards gala in November, where they shared the stage with Chita Rivera, Bebe Neuwirth, and Anthony Rapp. In October, Manna was cast as Laurie in Baayork Lee's staged reading of *Oklahoma*, produced by the National Asian Artists Project. She also sang on a Disney Live! demo session for one of the new touring castle shows.



One of the featured performances at the 2011 Michigan Music Conference marked a reunion between two WMU clarinet alumni.

Justin O'Dell (BM'99) was the soloist with the Okemos High School Symphonic Wind Ensemble, conducted by his WMU classmate **Mark Stice** (BM'98).

Kathleen O'Donnell (BM'11) was nominated in November to be a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Taylor O'Donnell (BM'10) was hired to teach jazz voice at Miami-Dade College, where she will be working with WMU alumni **Tim Buccholz** (BM'05) and **Tim Brent** (BM'97).

Donald Para (BM'71, MM'72) accepted the position of provost and senior vice president of academic affairs at Cal State Long Beach, after serving for nearly a year as the interim provost. Para has been at CSULB since 1988 when he arrived as chair of the Department of Music, which he led for 12 years before being named associate dean of the College of the Arts in 2000 and dean of the college one year later.

Jamie (Brachel) Reed (BM'00), who has been a musical director on cruise ships for the past several years, came to Kalamazoo in early 2011 to be Music Director of the WMU Department of Theatre's production of *Rent*.

Susan Rice (MM'03) became Dr. Susan Rice after successfully defending her dissertation for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral music at the University of Illinois.

Johnny Rodgers (BM'98) and his band toured Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands during the month of November under the sponsorship of Jazz at Lincoln Center and the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs.



Melisa Rutkelis (BM'09) is the Band and Choir Director at Dickinson Fine Arts Academy in South Bend, Ind.

Luis Daniel Salazar Huipe (MM'09) won a violin section position in the Jalisco Philharmonic Orchestra in Mexico.

Bryan Scafuri (BM'06) won a cello section position in the Cheyenne (Wy.) Symphony Orchestra.

Adam Schumaker (MM'08) arranged a work for erhu and chamber ensemble which was premiered on the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra's Fall Evening concert in October. Guest artist Shiyu Chen was the erhu soloist.

Jed Scott (BA'01) launched his new website, www.jedscott.com, in February.

London Silas Shavers (MM'02) is Professor of Fine Arts and Coordinator of Woodwind Studies at Northwest Mississippi Community College and an Endorsing Artist/Clinician for the Leblanc Division of Conn-Selmer, Inc., Gonzalez Reeds, ChopSaver Lip Balm, and Backun Musical Services, Ltd.

Chris Shook (BM'73) has been appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the International Trombone Association, the most important organization for trombonists worldwide.

Adam Smale (MM'09) was featured in an article in the November issue of Guitar International.

Ly (Wilder) Tartell (MM'96) released her debut CD: *The Call*. Proceeds from sales of the recording will help fund school reconstruction for children in crisis in Haiti.

S. Matthew Taylor (MM'09) accepted a job teaching middle school choir and band and assisting with the high school marching band in Butts County, Georgia, 45 minutes south of Atlanta.

Logan Thomas (BM'07) won the biennial Nottingham International Jazz Piano Competition in 2010 and took second place in the 2010 Montreaux Jazz Piano Competition in Switzerland. In July, a 9/11 feature documentary film for which he composed and produced the music premiered at the 2010 New York International Film Festival.

Heather (VanCamp) Trammell (BM'88) was named the 2009 Volunteer of the Year by the Down Syndrome Association of Northern Virginia. She is Director of the Parent to Parent program with that organization.

Chris Van Hof (BM'06) and his brass quintet, The Emerald Brass, performed as guest soloists with the Eastman Wind Ensemble in April 2011, performing a piece the quintet helped commission. The Emerald Brass was started at Eastman in 2007. They can be found on the Web at www.emeraldbrass.com.

Lara Wagner (MM'09) is the LanSwingers director at Lansing (Mich.) Community College.

Eric Waldon (BM'98) accepted a faculty position in music therapy at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif.

Matthew Warnock (MM'05) is the head editor of Guitar International Magazine: www.guitarinternational.com.



Faculty Achievements

David Loberg Code received an Interdisciplinary Instructional Development Grant in support of KLOrk, the Kalamazoo Laptop Orchestra. With the help of this support, KLOrk has expanded to include iPads, iPods, and Wii-remotes, and is involved in collaborative research projects with the College of Engineering, Frostic School of Art, and other departments. Starting Fall 2011, the School of Music will begin offering MUS 2220 – Computer Music Design, a general education course for music and non-music majors introducing the computer programming and performance techniques used in KLOrk.

Martha Councell-Vargas gave master classes and solo recitals at Capital University Conservatory in Columbus, Ohio; Western Illinois University in Macomb; and in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, at the Escuela Nacional de Musica. She will return to Honduras as a guest artist in 2012 for the sixth annual Festival Latinoamerica de Flauta Traversa.

In January 2011, **Curtis Curtis-Smith** was awarded a grant from the Ditson Fund Recordings Archive of Columbia University to help fund a recording project of two of his works. In February, the Western Brass

Quintet performed Curtis-Smith's newer work, *Games for Brass*, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. In March, Curtis-Smith was heard in a solo piano recital at the Saugatuck Center for the Arts on the Sky Hempy Keyboard Series. He performed music by Bartok, Brahms, Debussy and some of his own piano etudes. Curtis-Smith's monumental work, *Fanfare Lyrique*, was premiered in September 2010 by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra in Miller Auditorium. The review in the Kalamazoo Gazette said: "*Fanfare Lyrique* was an imaginative work that eschewed the expected avalanche of drums and bugles of fanfares. Curtis-Smith instead relied on fresh melodic phrases and intriguing harmonies. Enticingly listenable, the mostly tonal piece moved steadily, momentum sustained through chimes, marimbas, and violins."

Duane Shields Davis composed and arranged original symphonic music for the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra's "Symphony With Soul" concert in February 2011, which included arranging for and rehearsing the Grand Rapids Community Chorus and jazz singer Lizz Wright and conducting the symphony on the first half of the concert in DeVos Hall.

Carl Doubleday was among 15 arts educators to receive Michigan Youth Arts Educator of the Year Awards in May 2010 at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival. Doubleday received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his role as liaison between Western Michigan University's School of Music and the Festival. For over a decade, he coordinated the Festival's three days of music rehearsals and performances, orchestrating the flow of thousands of students and educators, and ensuring adherence to the highest standards of artistic excellence. The presentation acknowledged that his "extraordinary talents, dedication and warmth are all honored with this award."

Igor Fedotov's CD of Russian viola music was ranked the fourth best selling chamber music recording on Naxos in October 2010.



Lin Foulk was a featured artist at the International Women's Brass Conference in Toronto. She performed a full recital with Monarch Brass (a premier ensemble with players from the top orchestras and military bands in the country), premiered a piece with TubaCOR, and presented her

"Women in Orchestras in the 21st Century" lecture recital. She has also recently presented this lecture recital at the University of Iowa; Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas; Georgia State College & University; and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Foulk performed a full solo recital, presented a master class, taught lessons, and lectured in a residency at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in May 2010. She performed with the Monarch Brass Quintet in St. Louis in March 2011 and for 16 *Wicked* shows in 11 days when the production came to Miller Auditorium. Foulk and three WMU horn students will present Ann Callaway's *Four Elements* for horn and piano at the International Alliance for Women in Music Congress at Northern Arizona University in September 2011.

John Griffin received his Ph.D. in music composition from the University of Iowa in 2008 (BM'02; MM'04 from WMU). Currently, he is on the faculty at WMU as an instructor of composition, theory, aural skills, and counterpoint, in addition to serving as the accompanist for the Kalamazoo Singers choral group. Among his current compositions are commissions for the Kalamazoo Singers and for WMU's Birds on a Wire New Music Ensemble. Recent honors include performances of his music at two College Music Society International Conferences in Croatia (2009) and South Korea (2011), plus several festivals and conferences throughout the United States.



Keith Hall released a new book, *Jazz Drums Now!* Volume 1, and his trio, Tri-Fi, released its third CD, 3. He also presented at the Michigan Music Conference and in the Kalamazoo Public Schools. In June 2010, he held the 4th annual Keith Hall Summer Drum Intensive, and in November, he hosted the first Keith Hall Drum Choir Experience. *Encore* magazine published a feature article on him in its February issue.

Renata Artman Knific was an artist faculty member at Orfeo (formerly Schlern) International Summer Festival in the Italian Alps, where she performed chamber music concerts and recitals, and taught lessons and master classes. She recorded the Gershwin *Lullaby* CD for the Gershwin estate with Kevin Cole and Tom Knific, and she established a residency by the Sphinx Chamber

Orchestra with her former student, Aaron Dworkin, founder of the Sphinx Organization. An on-going relationship continues with the School as a result.

Tom Knific was an artist-in-residence at Berlin 2010, the world's largest double bass event that year, hosted by The University of The Arts in Germany. He performed recitals and debuted his compositions, appearing as a soloist and in duo with Rufus Reid and in trio with Jimmi Rodgers Pedersen and Paul Erhard. Tom and Renata Artman Knific were artists-in-residence at The China Conservatory, Beijing, in May 2011 and did a residency at the University of Iowa in April 2011. Tom will be featured at the International Society of Bassists Convention in June 2011, in recital with Renata, Gene Knific, Bill Mays and Tim Froncek, where he will give the U.S. premiere of his second duo for violin and double bass, *Zhang Song*. Additional appearances include The Gilmore International Keyboard Festival with Kevin Cole; concerts throughout the Midwest and on campus with Shelly Berg, Jiggs Whigham, and the Tom Knific Quartet; and as Music Director of the Midland Jazz Trails Festival with John Pizzarelli and Kevin Cole.

Trent Kynaston directed the Minnesota All-State Jazz Ensemble at the Minnesota Music Education Association Conference in February 2011. He also presented a clinic titled "Teaching Jazz Improvisation, A New Approach." The Western Jazz Quartet performed his *Sabine's Dance for Jazz Quartet and Wind Ensemble* with the Muskegon Reeths-Puffer (Mich.) High School Wind Ensemble (Charles Hodson, director) at the Michigan Music Conference in January.

John Lychner is in the middle of a two-year term as President of the Michigan Music Educators Association (MMEA). He also serves on the Executive Committee for the Michigan Music Conference (MMC) and presided over a session at the MMC. As part of his duties as MMEA President, Lychner represented Michigan at a variety of MENC events, including the MENC North-Central Division meeting in Cincinnati and the MENC National Assembly in Washington,

D.C. In Michigan, he was a clinician for the Michigan Wind and Percussion Festival at Portage Northern High School and the featured clinician/conductor for the Lenawee Fine Arts Day Collage Concert. At WMU, he hosted both the 3rd Annual Fall Conference, "The Joy of Middle School Band," featuring guest composer Quincy Hilliard, and the Spring Conference Suddendorf Repertory Band. Lychner's "Teacher Resource Guide for Snake Charmer" was published in *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band*, Volume 8 in December 2010.



The Merling Trio (**Susan Wiersma Uchimura**, piano; **Bruce Uchimura**, cello; and **Renata Artman Knific**, violin) performed in Michigan for the Grand Rapids Arts Museum Fall Chamber Concert Series and the Detroit Institute of Arts Brunch with Bach series. In March, they were invited for the third time to be Guest Artists for the Michigan String Teachers Association Chamber Music Festival in East Lansing. Out of state, the trio performed in Georgia at Shorter College, Emmanuel College, and Gordon College; in Ohio at Brecksville United Methodist Church; in Utah for Cedar City Music Arts and Zion Arts in Springdale; in North Carolina for the Friends of Music in Charlotte and at Lenoir-Rhyne University, where they were hosted by alumnus Dr. Christopher Nigrelli (BM'92). The trio toured Colorado in November, performing and teaching at Mesa State University, Western State College, and Fort Lewis College. Their host at Fort Lewis College was alumna Dr. Kasia Sokol (BM'01), pictured above (center) with the trio.

During its tour of South Carolina in March, the trio performed at North Greenville University, for the Fripp Island Friends of Music, and at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. The trio is now on YouTube and Facebook.



Percussion professor **Judy Moonert** received a Support for Faculty Scholars Award to fund a CD recording of the Coalescence Percussion Duo, featuring herself and Greg Secor (BM'85). The Duo has a new website, www.coalescencepercussionduo.com, which includes links to hear their performances of several percussion duo compositions. Moonert also performed the premiere of a new chamber work by Peter D. Pecere, *Hiranyaloka*, in November at WMU. Moonert will embark on her first sabbatical in fall 2011. She will use this opportunity to study with Jamey Haddad, observe world percussion ensembles, present master classes at the universities of Wisconsin at Madison and Green Bay, and travel to Cuba to study Afro-Cuban drum and dance. She will also attend the Magbana Drum and Dance Retreat in New York, the North American Frame Drum Association Festivals, and the California Brazil Camp.

The **Music Therapy** area was well represented at the annual conference of the American Music Therapy Association in Cleveland in November 2010. All three faculty members participated in conference sessions along with adjunct faculty member Carolyn Koebel and graduate student Ann Armbruster. Edward Roth

and Carolyn Koebel presented at a session titled "Real world drum-set skills for broad clinical application and the NMT connection." David Smith presented at a session titled "Rocking out in the classroom and into the future of music therapy." Brian Wilson presented at a session titled "Imagine: Sharing perspectives and ideas for AMTA's new early childhood online magazine." Wilson also received a Presidential Award at the conference's opening session in recognition of his 21 years as Editor of *Music Therapy Perspectives*. Ann Armbruster was selected to present her study titled "The effect of music therapy on response time and number of prompts needed to follow directions in four young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders" at the Research Poster session.

Stanley Pelkey's chapter "Still Flyin'? Conventions, Reversals, and Musical Meaning in *Firefly*" was published in *Buffy, Ballads, and Bad Guys Who Sing: Music in the Worlds of Joss Whedon* (Scarecrow Press) in November 2010. Five of his book reviews were also published in *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* during 2010. He is presently writing several essays and articles on film and television music.

Carl Ratner received a Fulbright Lecture/Research grant to the State Conservatory of St. Petersburg, Russia, for the fall semester of 2010. There he coached voice students for a concert of American songs, directed Gian Carlo Menotti's opera *The Old Maid and the Thief*, gave master classes and lectures, participated in three collaborative recitals, and presented and recorded a solo recital of songs by Russian and Russian-American composers. He is currently touring this recital throughout the United States, with stops in seven states and the District of Columbia, and will perform it in the Dalton Center Recital Hall in November 2011. He also served as consultant for two productions at Opera Naples, and performed as baritone soloist with The Bach Ensemble of Naples for two performances of *Messiah* as well as a mixed program, which he will tour in July 2011 to Leipzig, Berlin, and Prague.

Silvia Roederer performed concerts with the Verdehr Trio in Wiesloch, Germany; Barr, France; and at Trinity College of Music in London from Nov. 12-19, 2010. The performances included premieres of UK composers Peter Dickinson and Theo Jamieson, as well as works written for the trio by composers Jean-Jacques Werner (France), Alexander Arutiunian (Armenia), Evan Chambers (UM), and Bill Bohn (NYC). During a 2011 spring break trip to Austria, the trio taught masterclasses and performed concerts during two residencies at the Mozarteum in Salzburg and at the University for Music in Vienna. In Vienna, the trio's concert included a lovely piece that the host institution's faculty member Wolfram Wagner wrote for them in 2005. As they travel, the Verdehr Trio (clarinet, violin, and piano) is coaching young groups in their configuration with more frequency and is happy to be responsible for commissioning over 200 works for these new trios to play.

Gwendolynn (Wendy) Rose continued her work as faculty mentor at the Hot Springs Music Festival (Hot Springs, Ark.) in June 2010, where she performed the Haydn *Symphonie Concertante* with the Festival Orchestra, and also appeared in a performance of the Stravinsky *Octet*. She was invited to perform with the Chamber Music Festival of Saugatuck for the first time in July 2010 and will return in July 2011. Rose continues her role as Principal Bassoon with the Battle Creek Symphony Orchestra, and is a frequent substitute musician with the Grand Rapids Symphony and the Kalamazoo Symphony. Together with Michael Miller, she presented the WMU Double Reed Festival 2011 in February with guest artist Karen Pierson, from Ohio State University. She maintains an active performance schedule with the Western Wind Quintet, and traveled to Chengdu, China as a member of Western Winds in May 2011.



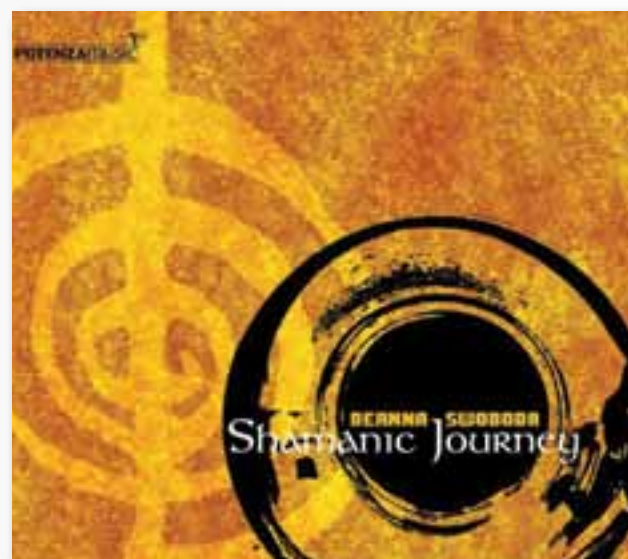
In August 2010, **Edward Roth** was one of only three Americans on the program for the inaugural conference of the International Society for Clinical Neuromusicology in Salzburg, Austria. He presented a synthesis of three papers titled "Music and Motor Control in Neurologic Rehabilitation: Three Preliminary Studies." In February 2011, Roth was invited by the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona to provide clinical supervision for two professional and student music therapists, present lectures on neuroscience and music, and give a workshop on Neurologic Music Therapy. Roth was awarded a grant through the 21st Century Program of Communities in Schools funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The award has provided support for his Promise Project, which delivers music therapy services in elementary, middle, and high schools in Kalamazoo. Therapeutic and educational music experiences are delivered by two full-time interns under Roth's supervision and are directed toward the development of social, emotional, and academic preparedness for success in college.

Since its release in January 2010, **Bob Spradling's** conducting text, *Error Detection for the Instrumental Conductor*, is rapidly being adopted into conducting curricula at colleges and universities across the country. The text is being used in both conducting and music education methods courses as an effective means of giving students experience in developing ensemble rehearsal techniques while detecting and correcting errors. In addition, he accepted an invitation to be the conductor of the 2011 Kansas Intercollegiate Band which rehearsed and performed in February as a part of the Kansas Music Educators' Association state music conference in Wichita, and to adjudicate the Florida Bandmasters Association State Assessment for High School Bands in April.

Matthew Steel served on the Program Committee of the Midwest Chapter of the American Musicological Society and chaired sessions at the fall meeting in Chicago (National Lewis University) and the Spring meeting (April 2) at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich. He chaired a session on medieval chant at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at WMU in May. Steel became a reviewer for Oxford University Press's new "Oxford Bibliographies Online" series. He served as Mentor for Evan Snyder's J.S. Bach project that culminated in a concert on April 10 and involved the Collegium Musicum. Evan, who is a member of the Collegium, chose repertoire, including the *Brandenburg Concerto #2* and the polychoral motet *Furchte dich nicht*, that was used in both the Collegium concert (March 29) and in his April 10 concert. Steel also wrote a dozen previews and reviews of concerts for the Kalamazoo Gazette.

Deanna Swoboda released a new CD, *Shamanic Journey*, through Potenza Music. The project was made possible by a WMU Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award. The recording features the music of women composers including Elizabeth Raum, Alice Gomez, Libby Larsen, and Barbara York. Two of the works were commissioned by Swoboda.

Deanna was the guest soloist and clinician for the Northern State University (S.D.) Band Day. She performed as soloist with the university band and presented a master class for 300 band students and music educators. Swoboda and the tuba euphonium studio co-hosted the International Tuba Euphonium Association's Midwest Regional Tuba Euphonium Conference at Central Michigan University, with Dr. Mark Cox. The WMU studio also hosted TUBAfest, which featured Professor Emeritus Robert L. Whaley and an alumni reunion of the "Whaley's Wailers" ensemble.



Since March 2010, **TubaCOR** (Lin Foulk, horn, Deanna Swoboda, tuba, and Helen Lukan, piano) has been active presenting master classes, lessons, lectures, and recitals in residencies at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas; Georgia State College & University; and as Ida Beam Distinguished Guest Lecturers at the University of Iowa. In Kalamazoo the ensemble performed as featured soloists with the String Orchestra of Kalamazoo (Barry Ross, conductor) at Friendship Village and St. Luke's Episcopal Church. TubaCOR premiered *Color Code* by Elizabeth Raum, a piece they co-commissioned, at the International Women's Brass Conference in Toronto in June 2010. TubaCOR has been invited to

present a full recital at the Women in Music Festival at the Eastman School of Music in March 2012. Foulk and Swoboda will host the International Women's Brass Conference on the WMU campus June 6–10, 2012.



Bruce Uchimura was guest conductor of the Western States Honors Orchestra held at the University of Northern Colorado in November 2010, as well as guest conductor of the statewide Honors Orchestra at the 2010 Michigan Youth Arts Festival. He worked with high school orchestras at Hudsonville and North Pointe Christian schools and was guest conductor at the Walled Lake Consolidated Schools Day for Strings in January 2011 and the Jenison Schools in March. In addition, he judged the MSBOA District 12 Solo and Ensemble Festival and was invited to judge Eastern Michigan University's annual concerto competition. He continues to tour with the Merling Trio which had a busy concert season along with many educational residency activities that the trio presents while on tour. In August, he taught and coached chamber music groups at the Calvin String Summit, and performed and coached chamber music at the Sleepy Hollow Chamber Music Festival in May.

The **Western Brass Quintet** performed recitals and presented master classes at the University of North Carolina–Greensboro, East Carolina University, University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin–

Whitewater, and were featured artists at the South Dakota Music Educator's Conference in Brookings, S.D., where they performed as soloists with the South Dakota State University Symphonic Band. WBQ is currently working on several commissioning projects and will premiere Joseph Blaha's *The King Dances* and perform Anthony Plog's *Concerto 2010* (a piece they co-commissioned with the American Brass Quintet) with the WMU University Symphonic and Concert Bands in 2011.

The **Western Jazz Quartet** added a fifth continent to its touring history and was in residence at the 7th Internacional Festival de Musica in Maputo, Mozambique, for a week of concerts and collaborations with international artists in May 2011. The WJQ was again invited to appear on the Museum of Fine Arts series in Saint Petersburg, Fla. The quartet was featured with the Kalamazoo Concert Band at Miller Auditorium in a concert of their own works including Trent Kynaston's *Tango Sweet*.

The **Western Wind Quintet** entered a new phase this year with the addition of two new members – flutist Martha Cuncell-Vargas, in her first year as Assistant Professor of Flute, and Lin Foulk, now doing double duty as hornist with the Western Wind Quintet and the Western Brass Quintet. The newly reconstituted ensemble made its debut in a July concert as part of the Fontana Chamber Arts Summer Music Festival. Additional performances were the WMU Showcase Spectacular in October and a Bullock Series concert in March, with Stephanie Hovnanian on bass clarinet. The quintet also did outreach concerts, visiting eleven high school music programs throughout Michigan. In May, it traveled with the Western Winds ensemble for a residency in Sichuan, China. Next year's activities include a program on the Rocky River Chamber Series in the Cleveland area and plans for international travel and a commissioning project.

Karen Wicklund received high praises for her textbook, *Singing Voice Rehabilitation: A Guide for the Voice Teacher and Speech Language Pathologist*, from NATS Journal reviewer Debra Greschner, who in the November/December 2010 issue called her text "...a monumental contribution to the field of voice health." Wicklund has recently returned from providing singing voice rehabilitation training to voice teachers in the Phoenix and Atlanta areas. In addition, she was guest clinician for the Phoenix area NATS Musical Theater competition in February 2011 where she spoke on the topic of "Healthy Belting for the Young Musical Theater Singer." In June she will teach a Healthy Belting graduate course at WMU.

Steve Wolfinbarger received WMU's Distinguished Teaching Award, the highest honor the University bestows on faculty members for their work with students.

In addition to his clarinet activities, **Bradley Wong** began his new position as Coordinator of Graduate Studies in August 2010. With the addition of part-time instructor Stephanie Hovnanian, the clarinet studio had the advantage of working with both clarinet teachers in private lessons and studio classes. They also worked with guests Scott Anderson, principal clarinetist with the Honolulu Symphony; Ted Oien and Larry Liberson, principal and assistant principal with the Detroit Symphony; and Justin O'Dell, Michigan State University (and WMU alumnus). Wong continues to perform as principal clarinetist with the Southwest Michigan Symphony. Other appearances include the Saugatuck Chamber Music Festival, the Fontana Chamber Arts Summer Music Festival, and the Western Wind Quintet. He also played the world premiere of a work by Peter Pecere, in which he performed both clarinet and the Yamaha WX5 MIDI Wind Controller. He is a Yamaha artist.

Steve Zegree, the Bobby McFerrin Professor of Jazz, has written and published the following new choral arrangements: *Rainy Days and Mondays* (SATB and rhythm section) – Shawnee Press, *A Wink and a Smile* (2 part and piano) – Hal Leonard, *So Nice (Summer Samba)* (SATB, SAB and trio) – Hal Leonard, and *Come Dance With Me* (SATB, SAB, SSA, with band and horns) – Hal Leonard. In addition, Zegree served as guest clinician/artist at University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse jazz festival, Ohio Music Educators

Association State Convention in Cincinnati, Waukegan (Ia.) choral festival, performed a duo concert with Ly Tartell in Chesterton, Ind., and served as guest clinician at Showchoir Camps of America (Heidelberg University and Millikin University). He also hosted and produced the 31st Annual Gold Company Invitational Vocal Jazz Festival, including performances by high school, community college, and university groups from six states and Canada, plus a featured performance by Gold Company II (GC II), Michael Wheaton, director. Zegree served as Guest Conductor for the Kalamazoo Singers tribute to Tom Kasdorf concert, hosted the Steve Zegree Vocal Jazz Camp at Western Michigan University June 26-July 1, 2011, and was invited to give clinics and serve on the jury of the 2011 Hong Kong International Youth and Children Choir Festival (www.hkltreblechoir.com/hkiyccf).



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- 7 Tyler-Little Family Foundation
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Cello

Bruce Uchimura

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Photographs from the School of Music's March production of Benjamin Britten's *Albert Herring*.

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Guest Artists

Air Force Brass Ensemble
Ann Arbor Trombone Choir
Arabesque Trio
Chris Beckstrom, Saxophone
Janet Beckstrom, Speaker
D. Neil Bremer, Speaker
Virginia Broffitt, Flute
Cleveland Jazz All-Stars
George Curran, Trombone
Quincy Davis, Drums
Carter Dewberry, Cello
Down the Line
Kurt Elling, Vocal Jazz
Kenny Endo Taiko Drum Ensemble
Rolf Erdahl, Double Bass
James Erdman, Trombone
Johannes Ernst, Saxophone
Euclid String Quartet
Jill Felber, Flute
Mark Flugge, Piano
Lynn Gackle, Conductor
Kathryn Goodson, Piano
Tina Gorter, Piano
Jennifer Goulet, Speaker
Ruth Goveia, Piano
Harlem String Quartet
Billy Hart, Drums/Jazz
Randy Hawes, Trombone
Gretchen Hayden, Kathak Dancer
Melanie Helton, Adjudicator
Rebecca Henderson, Oboe

Fred Hersch, Piano and Composer
Kip Hickman, Trombone
Quincy Hilliard, Composer and Conductor
Lisa A. Jelle, Flute
Dean Johnson, Voice
John Knowlton, Speaker
Carolyn Koebel, Percussion
Carla LaFevre, Voice
Bénédicte Lauzière, Violin
Jerry Leake, Tabla
Vadim Mazo, Violin and Viola
Deb Moriarity, Piano
Elinore Morin, Alexander Technique
Michael Philip Mossman, Trumpet
New Tricks
Robert Nordling, Adjudicator
Justin O'Dell, Adjudicator
Ted Oien, Clarinet
Eric Olson, Violin
Lea Pearson, Body Mapping
Peter D. Pecere, Composer
Molly Petrik, Piano
Karen Pierson, Bassoon
Marianne Ploger, Pedagogue
Ken Potsic, Bassoon Technician
Project Trio
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George Ruckert, Sarod
Ann Schein, Piano
Bernhard Scully, Horn
Greg Secor, Percussion
Scott C. Shuler, Speaker
Theodore Sipes, Baritone
Leonard Slatkin, Conductor
Chris Smith, Trumpet
Matt Snell, Speaker
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Corbin Wagner, Horn
Mark Wait, Moderator and Consultant
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Melissa White, Violin
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Betsy Wong, Flute
Vernon Yenne, Voice
Jeffery Zook, Flute