

GREETINGS FROM CULLOWHEE

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The new school year is off to a great start, and we hope you are having a good year as well!

On September 3, School of Music faculty and students performed with Chancellor David Belcher and his wife, Susan, to a full house at the John W. Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center on campus. Mrs. Belcher sang several songs with musical theatre students and their mentor, Broadway star Terry Mann, backed up by a combo of music faculty. Chancellor Belcher performed a wonderful rendition of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue with an ensemble of faculty and student instrumentalists under the direction of Dr. John West. The program was a fund-raiser for the Friends of the Arts organization.

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Artist-in-Residence Program to Feature Orchestral and Chamber Masterpieces

The School of Music's Artist-in-Residence Program brings professional string musicians from the Asheville Symphony Orchestra to perform orchestral masterworks and chamber music with WCU's woodwind, brass, and percussion students. The program also supports hiring strings for choral programs, small operas, chamber music with faculty, or even a live radio show! With the establishment of a permanent fund, WCU will now have professional-level orchestral and string programs at the university on a continuing basis. Students will perform major works of the orchestral repertoire with professional players, in addition to chamber music and orchestral accompaniments to choral and operatic works.

Bringing live orchestral music to campus adds an exciting dimension to the School of Music's current concert series, which numbers more than 150 free concerts per year, including faculty, guest artist and student recitals, ensemble concerts, and performances of the Pride of the Mountains Marching Band.

THE 2013-14 CALENDAR OF EVENTS INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

Tuesday, September 17, 7:30 p.m. in the Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center (BAC). Maestro Daniel Meyer conducting: Mendelssohn, *Hebrides Overture*; Strauss, *Concerto No. 1 for Horn and Orchestra* (Travis Bennett, horn soloist); and Beethoven, *Symphony No. 4*

Tuesday, October 29, 7:30 p.m. in the Recital Hall (RH) of Coulter. Faculty Chamber Music Concert: Schubert *Octet*, with Shannon Thompson, clarinet, Will Peebles, bassoon, and Travis Bennett, horn

Tuesday, February 4, 2014, 7:30 p.m. BAC. Maestro Daniel Meyer conducting: Prokofiev, *Lieutenant Kije Suite*; Mozart *Concerto for Two Pianos* (Andrew Adams and Brad Martin, soloists); Shostakovich, *Symphony No. 5*

Friday-Sunday, March 28-30, 2014: Chamber Opera featuring student vocalists and instrumentalists, in collaboration with the Haywood Arts Repertory Theatre, Waynesville, N.C.

April 2014 TBA Chamber Music for Winds and Strings, 7:30 p.m. RH, presented as part of the WCU Undergraduate Research Symposium

Thursday, May 1, 2014, 7:30 p.m. BAC Choral Concert: Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*, presented by WCU choral ensembles and Western Carolina Community Chorus, conducted by Michael Lancaster and Robert Holquist

For more information, please visit the School of Music's webpage: music.wcu.edu or call the department office at 828.227.7242.

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2013 “Pride of the Mountains” Marching Band Will “X-Cite” You!

The students and staff of the 2013 “Pride of the Mountains” Marching Band have been working diligently for the last four months on this year’s production entitled, “Generation NeXt.” A leadership team, comprising more than 90 students, has planned, recruited and trained the band in an effort to maintain the traditions of the program while elevating musical and visual expectations. With freshmen membership numbering over 180 and an incredibly high percentage of veteran members returning, the 2013 “Pride of the Mountains” marching band totals 409 students and will continue to set performance standards, while pushing the envelope for innovation and entertainment.

The band welcomes two new members to the design team for 2013. They include Robert W. Smith, our new music arranger, and Michael Gaines, our new drill designer. Both of these gentlemen are internationally recognized for their contribution to the pageantry arts and are iconic names in the marching band and drum and bugle corps activity. With the reputation the “Pride of the Mountains” enjoys nationally, these gentlemen were honored as well as eXcited about joining the team of directors to create this year’s show.

The conceptual idea of the 2013 production centers on the unknown of “X,” while allowing the listener a sense of recognizable connection to both musical and visual elements. The goal is to offer music from a variety of styles, genres, artists, and composers, inspiring audience members of all ages to relate to music which defines their own “generation.” Diehard fans of the “Pride” will eXperience moments in “Generation NeXt” which they have never witnessed on a football field (or would ever hope to eXperience) based on what they will see and hear. Needless to say, this show will entertain everyone!

The show is divided into four movements, including “**X-Cite**” which will center on the music of Beethoven (who even though



considered a classical composer, was indeed “unique” for his time period), as well as pop/rock music from Michael Jackson, Christina Aguilera, Pitbull, A-Ha, and Kiss. “**X-Press**” will feature the music of Justin Timberlake and The Average White Band, with a mesh of instrumental and vocal performance that will take the listener on a cultural tour of musical style and groove seldom heard in a marching band performance!

“**X-Ceed**” will push the performers and the audience past what one thinks as visually possible on a football field, “X-ceeding” the boundaries of standard visual programming, while thinking out of the box musically, utilizing the music of Benny Benassi and Skrillex. “**X-Treme**” will feature the music of Florence and the Machine, Robert Randolph and conclude with music from the popular “X-Files” TV series that will propel our production “into the future” while maintaining an undeniable “Pride of the Mountains” identity. Each movement contains musical and visual “hooks” that will have the audience wondering... “What could possibly happen NeXt?!”

This year the “Pride of the Mountains” Marching Band celebrates their 75th

anniversary. Much of the visual and musical motivation behind the design of this production is influenced by where the band started in 1938 to the development of where it is today. Beyond the years of the program’s success, the directors and staff look upon this anniversary as a responsibility to continue to raise the bar and potential of the membership. In essence, the “X” represents the unknown of the program’s NeXt evolution. In 2014, the “Pride of the Mountains” Marching Band will travel to New York City and perform in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. We are honored to represent the state of North Carolina and Western Carolina University at an event that will be viewed by over 20 million people worldwide! For now, the program celebrates eXciting times with great momentum towards the future, while instilling a renaissance of personal expectation and challenge through musical and visual performance, never before seen at the collegiate level.

The “Pride of the Mountains” is under the leadership of David Starnes (Director of Athletic Bands), Matt Henley and Jon Henson (Assistant Directors).



WCU WIND ENSEMBLE PRESENTS A CONCERT AS PART OF THE 1960S CELEBRATION

The WCU Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. John T. West, will present a concert on Tuesday, October 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center. The program for the concert is a part of the university-wide celebration of the 1960s and the repertoire is all tied to that decade.

The 57-member ensemble will perform major wind band works such as the *Symphony No. 3* by Vittorio Giannini. This substantial work was actually written in 1958 for the Duke University Band on commission by its conductor at the time, Paul Bryan. It was published in 1961 and serves as a type of lead-in to the turbulent decade of the sixties. Giannini was a highly respected composer and music administrator who served as the first president of the NC School of the Arts. His music is very “Romantic” in character and this *Symphony* is no exception. It follows the standard four movement symphonic format and has gorgeous melodies throughout.

Also on the program is Warren Benson’s *The Leaves Are Falling*. Written in 1963, the piece was the composer’s artistic reaction to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy (this November 22 marks the 50th anniversary of that tragic event). It is a somber and moving work with hints of minimalism – a movement that wouldn’t really take hold until later in the decade. Another beautiful piece comes next – Joaquin Rodrigo’s *Adagio para Orquesta de Instrumentos de Viento* (Adagio for Wind Orchestra). Composed in 1966, this piece calls for a smaller ensemble of orchestral winds and showcases numerous soloists.

The other large-scale work on the program is Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Karel Husa’s landmark piece *Music for Prague, 1968*. Written as a response to the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia with its memorable images of tanks rolling down the streets of Prague, Husa pulled out all of the stops in creating an intensely emotional work, full of anger, even outrage. It also contains, however, moments of optimism for the future of the Czech people.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE IN FULL SWING

The WCU Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Pavel Wlosok, will perform in concert with featured guest vocalist, Rockell Scott, on November 21, at 7:30 p.m. in Coulter Recital Hall. A concert tour is being planned for March 31-April 2, 2014, for high schools in the Hickory/Charlotte areas. If your school would like to host a performance by the ensemble on one of their future tours, please contact Mr. Wlosok at the School of Music.

The Annual WCU Jazz Festival is scheduled for April 26, 2014. The festival will include internationally known guests artists and clinicians as well as performances by WCU faculty and students. Plan to be a part of this great event! Check out this great youtube video from last year!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skkUtZnvwhw>

WCU HOSTS ALL-DISTRICT BAND

The WCU School of Music and Director of Bands Dr. John West will again host the western regional All-District Band on February 14-15, 2014. This event involves over 350 middle and high school band musicians from throughout Western North Carolina. These students are selected for participation through a rigorous audition process and spend two days at WCU rehearsing with guest clinicians. They present a final concert on Saturday afternoon as the concluding event to the clinic.

The clinicians for this year include: **Sam Hazo**, an award-winning composer of music for bands, conducting the 11th and 12th grade senior high band; **Scott Rush**, Director of Bands at Wando High School in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., conducting the 9th and

10th grade senior high band; **Phillip Riggs**, Director of Bands at the North Carolina School for Science and Math in Durham, conducting the Middle School Symphonic Band; and **Barbara Poole**, band director at East Flat Rock Middle School, conducting the Middle School Concert Band.

As part of the clinic, the students will have the opportunity to hear performances from the WCU Wind Ensemble and the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet. All of the rehearsals and performances in the clinic take place on the WCU campus in Cullowhee at either the Bardo Arts Center or the Coulter Music Building.

For more information contact the School of Music at (828) 227-7242.

CHORAL NEWS

The 2013-2014 academic year promises to be a fine year for the WCU choral program. We are drawing students from an ever-widening area within North Carolina as well as out of state. The Concert Choir is planning to travel to Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic in May 2014.

The **Fall Choral Concert** will take place Thursday, October 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center (BAC) on campus. The featured ensembles include the University Chorus,

Early Music Ensemble and Concert Choir. The annual **Madrigal Dinner**, featuring the Early Music Ensemble, will take place Saturday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. in the Grandroom of the University Center. The **"Sounds of the Season"** will include selections by the University Chorus, Concert Choir and Early Music Ensemble. It is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m. in BAC.

The **Winter Choral Concert** will be Thursday, February 27, at 7:30 p.m.

in BAC. This concert will include the Catamount Singers as well as the University Chorus and Concert Choir.

The **Spring Choral Concert** is scheduled for Thursday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. in BAC. In addition to the University Chorus and Concert Choir, this concert will include members of the Western Carolina Community Chorus and the Asheville Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*.



Fall Choral Tour

The Concert Choir and Early Music Ensemble, under the direction of Michael Lancaster, will travel to Rabun Gap, Ga., and Charlotte, NC, this October 17-18 for their annual Fall concert tour. They will sing at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School and South Mecklenburg High School among others.

The tour repertoire for the Concert Choir includes such pieces as "Prelude" by the Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo, "Adoramus te, Christe" by the Renaissance Flemish composer Roland de Lassus, "Alleluia" from *Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden* by J. S. Bach, "Abendlied" by German composer Josef Rheinberger, "I thank You God for most this amazing day" a setting of the e. e. cummings poem by the American composer Eric Whitacre and "Old Joe Clark," from *Three Mountain Tunes* arranged by Mack Wilberg.

The Early Music Ensemble will be singing Renaissance madrigals, chansons and Lieder by Thomas Morley, Claudio Monteverdi, Heinrich Isaac, and Pierre Passereau. The graduate assistant for both choirs is Michael Tanguay, a master's student in instrumental music education.



CONCERT CHOIR TO TOUR AND PERFORM IN EUROPE!

The WCU Concert Choir is planning a 16-day trip to Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic this coming May, 2014. The itinerary includes Berlin, Leipzig (where J. S. Bach conducted and composed), Prague, Vienna (where Beethoven, Mozart and Brahms lived), Salzburg (where Mozart was born), Innsbruck (surrounded by the Alps), Munich, and the Neuschwanstein Castle (after which Disney's Sleeping Beauty Castle was patterned).

The choir will perform in each city. In addition, the students will have a guided sightseeing tour of each city, and they will visit venues of historical significance such as Mozart's birthplace and the Thomaskirche in Leipzig, where Bach was music director.

Alumni, family and friends are invited to join us on this trip. For an itinerary and more information please contact Dr. Michael Lancaster at malancaster@email.wcu.edu. If you wish to contribute financially to this life-changing event, please contact Dr. Lancaster. We would welcome your help!

CHORAL CLINIC SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER

The WCU High School Choral Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, November 23. The event will involve high school choral students from throughout Western North Carolina, participating in a variety of clinics and performances. Throughout the day, the students will have an opportunity to hear the WCU Concert Choir as well as WCU student and faculty vocal soloists. The day will culminate in a large choir performance involving the participating high school students and members of the WCU Concert Choir, all under the direction of Michael Lancaster. It is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. in the Bardo Arts Center.

Alumni Invited to NCMEA Conference Reception

The NCMEA In-Service Conference will take place Sunday-Tuesday, November 10-12, in Winston-Salem, N.C., at the Benton Convention Center. We will have our customary booth in the exhibit hall, so please stop by and say "hello." Our alumni reception/dinner buffet will be from 5-7 p.m. November 10 at the Foothills Brewery Co., downtown Winston-Salem, 638 W. Fourth St. (336.777.3348). A cash bar will be available. The WCU Low Tech Ensemble will provide gamelan music from 5-6 p.m. See you then!

Madrigal Dinner December 7

The 2013 Madrigal Dinner production will be Saturday, December 7, in the Grandroom of the University Center. Presented nearly every year since 1970, this program has been a colorful way to usher in the Christmas season. Featured are the Early Music Ensemble (14 singers this year) under the direction of Michael Lancaster, director of choral activities at WCU; a trio of herald trumpets that introduces each event of the evening with a fanfare; and a trio of period instruments played by Will Peebles, Bruce Frazier and WCU alumnus **Mike Nichols MME '73**. *Dramatis personae* include a jester, pages, the lord and lady of the feast and others depending upon the chosen script. Seating begins at 6:00 p.m. with the show starting at 6:30. This year's menu features a choice of Cornish game hen, stuffed pork tenderloin or vegetarian entrée as well as wassail and figgy pudding.



Sounds of the Season

Sunday, December 8

“Sounds of the Season,” the primary scholarship fund-raiser for the WCU School of Music, will be offered at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, in the concert hall of the Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center (BAC) on the campus of Western Carolina University. The concert will feature performances by the Wind Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Concert Choir, University Chorus, Early Music Ensemble, Susan Belcher, and the Jackson County Children’s Choir.

Tickets for the program are \$15 for adults; \$10 for seniors (individuals 60 and older) and WCU faculty and staff; and \$5 for students and children. All proceeds from the sale of tickets for this event will contribute to the WCU School of Music Scholarship Fund. For information or to purchase tickets, visit the BAC box office, call 828.227.2479 or go online to bardoartscenter.wcu.edu.

Summer Institute for Latin American Music Teachers



Michael Schallock and Will Peebles developed and presented a Summer Institute for Latin American Music Educators June 24-28, 2013, at WCU sponsored by U.S. State Department through the Inter-Regional Center for Curriculum and Materials Development (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) and facilitated by the WCU Division of Educational Outreach. This institute was designed to meet the needs of music teachers from schools in the Caribbean area. Thirty-one music teachers participated, representing the following countries: Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Jamaica, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Venezuela.

Our week began with two days of sessions led by Dr. Russell Robinson, professor of music education at the University of Florida. Participants enjoyed live ensemble conducting opportunities with “Voices in the Laurel” children’s choirs directed by Martha Brown (chorus and drama teacher at Central Elementary and Junaluska Elementary in Haywood County), as well as the Jackson County bands, which were directed by **Andrew Umphlett BSEd '05** and **Kelly Litfin BSEd '11**. The following three days featured sessions led by WCU faculty including a gamelan workshop held by Will Peebles, a concert by the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet, and trips to Asheville and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Instructors and staff for the institute were WCU faculty and staff Mary Kay Bauer, Dan Gonko, Shannon Thompson, John West, and **Jon Henson, BSEd '05, MA '07**. Other staff included Maura Colvin (Cherokee Central Elementary, Qualla), Robert Holquist (WCU professor emeritus), Kathryn Johnson (Cullowhee Valley), **Rob Johnson BSEd '00 MM '06** (Cherokee Central High, Qualla), Diane Schallock (Fairview), **Tim Stiles BSEd '82** (recently retired from Haywood County Schools), **Emily Talley BSEd '04 MM '13** (Asheville High), and two current WCU students, Julie Popelka and Eric Jackson.



Echoes of The Cotton Club

On Thursday, April 24, the award-winning creative team that produced “War of the Worlds,” “A Christmas Carol,” “Armed Forces Radio Show,” “Dracula!” and “Tarzan of the Apes” will present its sixth collaborative staged radio broadcast, “Echoes of The Cotton Club”, featuring The WCU Catamount Singers and Electric Soul. The performance will be presented in the Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m., and will be recorded for future radio broadcast.

The performance will involve an ensemble of actors, singers, instrumentalists, dancers, designers and technicians. Don Connelly, head of the Department of Communication wrote the script, and Steve Carlisle, associate dean of the Honor’s College, will direct the production. Music directors for the show are Bruce Frazier and Jon Henson; Karyn Tomczak is choreographer. Other Stage and Screen faculty participating in the program include Susan Brown-Strauss, costumes; Luther Jones, set design; and David Bortle, technical

director. The performance will involve faculty and students from the colleges of Fine and Performing Arts, Arts and Sciences, and the Honors College.

Mercedes Ellington, granddaughter of famous Cotton Club band leader Duke Ellington, will make a special appearance. She will be coming to campus February 26 as a visiting scholar sharing her special talents as a singer, dancer and choreographer working with WCU performers in rehearsal and giving a presentation on her professional life and the work of her father and grandfather. Interviews during her February visit will be videotaped for inclusion in the staged production in April.

Musical numbers for The Cotton Club will include original arrangements inspired by the music of the Cotton Club era. Such artists as Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, and Ella Fitzgerald will be represented, as well as the contemporary entertainers they inspire, such as Aretha Franklin, Michael Jackson, Beyonce, Alicia Keys, and Justin Timberlake.



Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet Tours Germany and the Czech Republic

The Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet, the Western Carolina University quintet in residence, recently completed a concert tour of various cities in Germany and the Czech Republic. Quintet members include P. Bradley Ulrich on trumpet, David Ginn on trumpet, Travis Bennett on horn, Dan Cherry on trombone and Michael Schallock on tuba. Will Peebles, bassoon soloist and director of the WCU School of Music, accompanied them on this particular tour. While in Germany, the group performed full recitals and met with faculty members and students at two of WCU’s sister-schools, the Paedagogische Hochschule Weingarten and the Paedagogische Hochschule Ludwigsburg/Ludwigsburg University of Education. In addition, the quintet performed in two beer gardens in Germany as well as at a 50-year-old brass festival in the town of Kolin in the Czech Republic.

The group performed classical, pop and jazz selections along with pieces written by current and former WCU composers. Peebles performed a newly arranged “Introduction, Theme and Variations” by the German composer Carl Jacobi, which was arranged for the group by Ulrich.

Funding for this tour was made possible by the School of Music, College of Fine and Performing Arts, Office of the Provost and International Programs and Services.

Ulrich Receives Scholar Award; Returns To Russia To Perform



Professor Brad Ulrich received the WCU University Scholar Award in the spring of 2013. Ulrich was recognized for his 24-year career at WCU as a distinguished performer, scholar and teacher of trumpet. He has 20 scholarly articles to his credit and has performed regionally, nationally and internationally at some of the world's most prestigious conservatories. He also serves as artistic director of the annual International Trumpet Festival of Russia and as executive director of the Trumpet Festival of the Southeast, now an internationally known event which originated at WCU. "Dr. Ulrich is considered not only one of the finest performers in the School of Music but holds an international reputation among musicians," said Chancellor Belcher at the awards ceremony.

Ulrich will be returning to Moscow and St. Petersburg this October to teach and perform with the Fortress Brass Quintet. Other members of this quintet include: Eric Yates (trumpet, University of Alabama); John McGuire (horn, Colorado State University); Bradley Kerns (trombone, University of Kentucky); and Mike Dunn (tuba, University of Colorado). The group will perform on the Gala Concert of the Moscow Brass Days at the Moscow Conservatory, and then travel to St. Petersburg to perform five concerts, one of which will feature each quintet member as a soloist with piano accompaniment. The concerts will take place in theaters and palaces around historic St. Petersburg.

In celebration of Ulrich's 25 years of service to WCU, he presented an anniversary recital on Tuesday, Sept. 10. The program featured retired WCU faculty pianist Lillian Pearson accompanying on works by Purcell and Neruda. While at WCU, Pearson and Ulrich collaborated on numerous recital performances. A new work by Bruce Frazier, titled "Three Lyric Pieces for Flugelhorn, Flute and Piano" was premiered. The solo flute part was performed by Caroline Ulrich, Brad's wife and principal flute of the Greenville (S.C.) Symphony, and accompanied by Andrew Adams. Larry Black, WCU adjunct instructor of trumpet, and the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet also performed with Ulrich on various selections.

A highlight of the program was a performance of Mussorgsky's "The Great Gate of Kiev" featuring the WCU trumpet ensemble along with WCU trumpet studio alumni **Kurt Bonnett, BSED '05**, a trumpet teacher with the Lewisville Independent School District in Texas and adjunct instructor at the University of Texas at Tyler; **Liz Jewell, BM '00**, a freelance trumpet performer in Boston; **Hollie (Corn) Lifshey, BSED '96**, adjunct instructor at Georgia State University, and member of the Atlanta Opera Orchestra, the South Carolina Philharmonic, and the Macon Symphony; and **Andy McMahan, BSED '96**, director of bands at California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo.



Travis Bennett performed at the International Horn Symposium at the University of Memphis on August 2. He performed Bruce Frazier's "Collage: Four Textures for Horn and Piano" and was accompanied by Andrew Adams on piano. This piece was commissioned through a grant from the International Horn Society. Bennett gave the world premiere of this work at the Southeast Horn Workshop held at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va., on March 8. Each of the four movements is based on collage artwork that was projected on a screen during the performances.

Bennett's arrangement of Salieri's Overture to "Don Chisciotte" for eight horns was

performed by the University of Alabama Horn Choir at the International Horn Symposium, and has been published by RM Williams Publishing. His arrangement of "Fugata" by Astor Piazzolla for brass quintet and piano will be premiered at the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet concert on November 5, with Andrew Adams on piano.

Bennett was the featured soloist at the WCU Artist-in-Residence orchestra concert, September 17, performing the Strauss Horn Concerto No. 1, under the direction of Maestro Daniel Meyers.

Bruce Frazier and **Damon Sink** will be traveling to Cambridge, Massachusetts in November to present a session at the joint conference of the annual meeting of the College Music Society (CMS) and the Association for Technology in Music Instruction (ATMI). The topic, “MoTU’s Digital Performer: A new look at an old friend” introduces new features in Mark of the Unicorn’s Digital Performer music production software.



In April 2012, **Ian Jeffress** was a featured artist, along with his chamber ensemble the Assembly Quartet, at the Region 3 Conference of the North American Saxophone Alliance.

Over the summer the quartet saw their program for secondary school students, the Carolina Saxophone Camp, expand to an enrollment of 16 students in its second year. The camp is held annually in Fort Mill, S.C.



Michael Lancaster served as the conductor of the orchestra and chorus at the Raspberry Ridge Music Camp in Durham, N.C., June 10-16. The campers were middle

and high school students, and the works performed included Purcell’s *Music from the Fairy Queen* and Dvorak’s *Waltz Op. 54, No. 1*, among others.

As music director of the Asheville Symphony Chorus, Lancaster will conduct the ASC and the Asheville Choral Society with members of the Asheville Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Brahms: *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, November 8, 7:00 p.m., and November 9, 3:30 p.m., at Arden Presbyterian Church in Asheville. He will prepare the ASC to sing selections from Handel’s *Messiah*, as well as conduct *In the*

Bleak Midwinter by Harold Darke for the Asheville Symphony annual Holiday Concert, December 15. The ASC and ASO will also collaborate on April 12, 2014, for Haydn: *Lord Nelson Mass*. This concert will be at 8:00 p.m. in the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium.

Dr. Lancaster will conduct the Buncombe County High School Choral Clinic in a performance of Rutter’s *Gloria* October 22; the Henderson County High School Honor Chorus, November 15 at Hendersonville High School; and the 48th Annual Open Messiah Sing at the UNC Chapel Hill Newman Center December 13.

Will Peebles performed as a soloist in Brad Ulrich’s arrangement of Carl Jacobi’s “Introduction, Theme, and Variations” with the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet on their trip to Germany and the Czech Republic in June. He also performed with Asheville-based Pan Harmonia in May, the Page Five Woodwind Quintet in Marquette, Mich., in July, and with faculty colleagues at the Haywood County Library in August.



Christina Reitz presented scholarly research this past spring and summer at various professional meetings, including “Monster Concerts: Gottschalk’s Brobdingnagian

South American Festivals” (presented at the College Music Society’s International Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina); “The Civil War Concert Tours, an American Departure of Gottschalk” (presented at the Nineteenth Century Studies Association in Fresno, California); and “Sacred and Ecological Works of Meira Warshauer” (presented at the Athena Festival National Conference in Murray, Ky.) Her research “American Women Orchestras: Social and Economic Contributions in the Late Nineteenth Century” has been accepted for presentation at the San Antonio International Academic Conference, Clute Institute, in March 2014.



Eldred Spell’s research into the “Cooper Scale” has been utilized in the production of the new Kurt Gemeinhardt Generations Professional Flute. This new instrument

is built on the William Bennett, Trevor Wye, and Eldred Spell RS 2012 scale. The instrument is being handmade in the USA at the Elkhart, Ind., factory under the watchful eye of Gemeinhardt’s very own master craftsman Tom Lacy, and is endorsed and played by Nina Perlove.



Pavel Wlosok performed over 20 concerts this past summer throughout Europe with his jazz quartet (Adam Kowalewski, bass, Marian Sevcik, drums, and Ondrej Stveracek, tenor sax). Highlights of their activities

include: a performance at the International Jazz Festival in Ostrava, Czech Republic, June 14; a residency at the International Summer Jazz Workshop in Bratislava, Slovakia, July 1-5; and a performance at the International Jazz Festival of Prague, July 12.

Wlosok will perform a recital with a jazz trio on November 12 in the Coulter Recital Hall. He is also looking forward to releasing a new quartet CD, featuring saxophonist Joel Frahm, in December.

On February 15, 2014, he will present a solo jazz piano recital at Dianna Wortham Theatre in Asheville.



Daniel Mull, WCU senior music education major from Hayesville, is one of six distinguished junior and seniors from the UNC system to have recently completed the Inaugural Marian Drane Graham Scholars Program in Raleigh. This program is a six-week immersive and experiential summer program sponsored by the UNC General Administration designed to provide students the opportunity to develop leadership skills and a better understanding of key issues facing public higher education. Marian Drane Graham (1899-1967) was the wife of Frank

Porter Graham (1886-1972), former UNC President, U.S. Senator, and United Nations Representative. Scholars were mentored by UNC leadership, spent time in the UNC General Administration offices in Chapel Hill and met with staff members there, travelled to six UNC campuses, visited with key policy leaders in state government and businesses, and met with political and educational leaders during a visit to Washington, D.C.

In culminating their program experience, each scholar developed a capstone project which focused on a key issue facing higher education. Daniel's capstone project, *Teacher Evaluation in Higher Education: A Comparative Analysis of K-12 and Higher Education Evaluation Methods*, was presented to project coordinators, internship advisors and UNC General Administration staff.

Daniel's academic advisor and faculty sponsor for the program was Dr. Michael Schallock, associate professor of music, Western Carolina University.

Amy Brown presented her research "Arranging Classical Music for a Jazz Combo" at the 2013 WCU Undergraduate Exposition.

Justin Beebe and **Katelyn Johnson**, undergraduate horn students from the studio of Travis Bennett, recently returned from Louisville, Ky., where they competed in the University Division of the International Horn Competition of America.

Leanna Smith presented research entitled "Maurice Ravel's Compositional Philosophies: As Demonstrated in Daphnis et Chloe," at the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, on April 2013. She also presented this research at the 2013 WCU Undergraduate Exposition.

EMPLOYMENT UPDATE OF RECENT GRADUATES

Rachael Affron is now teaching choral music at Woodington Middle School, Lenoir County, N.C.

Lindsay Costner is now teaching band at Hunter Huss High School, Gaston County, N.C.

Billie Jean Curns teaches at BF Grady Middle School and East Duplin High School, Duplin County, N.C.

Alyssa Gillikin is choral director at Rosman Middle and High Schools, Rosman, N.C.

Tripp Lewis teaches choral music at Andrews Middle and High Schools, Andrews N.C.

Kelly Martin is an elementary music teacher at Reid Park Academy in Charlotte N.C.

Matthew Martin teaches band at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Charlotte, N.C.

Rachel (Rimmer) Murray teaches band at Woodington Middle School, Lenoir County, N.C.

Angie Pegram is the choral director at Cedar Ridge High School in Hillsborough, N.C.

Hannah Presson is currently teaching at Rankin and Joyner Elementary Schools (K-5) in Guilford County, N.C.

Abigail Roper is teaching choral music at Mountain View Intermediate, in Macon County.

Jonathan Sale is director of bands at Parkwood Middle School, and assisting at Parkwood High School, Union County, N.C.

Jason Scott teaches at Spring Hill Middle School, Scotland County Schools, N.C.

Nicole Segers teaches music at Wallburg, Silver Valley, and Friendship elementary schools in Davidson County, N.C.

Ashley Setzer is the choral director at Tuscola High School, Waynesville, N.C.

Amy Shuford is director of bands at Hillsboro High School, Nashville, Tenn.

Ryan Summers teaches band at Apple Valley Middle in Henderson County, N.C.

Molly Underwood teaches band at Southwest Middle School, Gaston County, N.C.

ASSISTANTSHIPS/ INTERNSHIPS

Hannah Austin, BM, BSED 2013, is pursuing an MM degree in clarinet performance at the University of Florida.

Ryan Wall, BM, BSED is pursuing an MM degree in flute performance at the University of Missouri.

STUDENT TEACHERS FOR FALL 2013

Martin Baker, Cullowhee Valley School

Lance Barton, West Henderson High School

Stacy Coker, Asheville High School

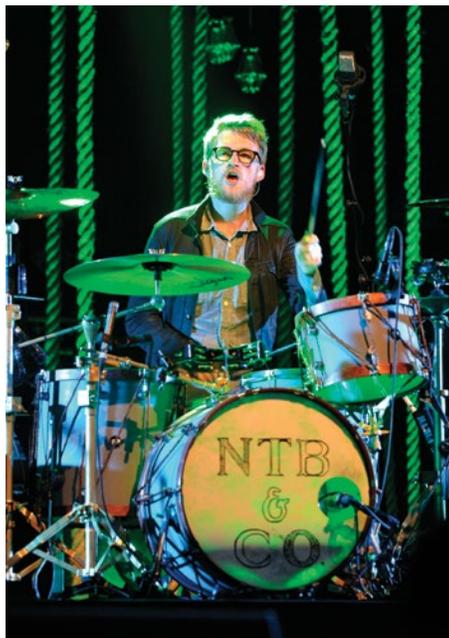
Joshua Dickens, Cane Creek School

Kayla McNeil, Cherokee Central School

Julie Ritter, Franklin High School

David Wilkin, Owen Middle School

ALUMNI NEWS



Drummer/percussionist **Randall Harris BM '09 MM '11** has released four studio albums with his alternative Christian rock band NEEDTOBREATHE, with 2011's "The Reckoning" reaching No. 6 on the Billboard charts. The band was featured on the late-night TV show "Conan" last October and is currently on tour and working on their fifth album.

Mitchell Hutchings, BM '07, is currently assistant professor of Voice and Opera at the Greatbatch School of Music, Houghton College, in Houghton New York

Jody McCarn, BSEd '98, MAEd '12, is currently teaching music in Davis-Townsend and Tyro Elementary schools, in Davidson County, N.C. He also serves as chairman of the Davidson County Elementary Music Section, and is a K-12 trainer for the school system's "Assessment of Student Work" in both music and art. He will be presenting at the North Carolina Music Educators Association Conference in Winston-Salem on Monday, November 11th at 1:00 p.m., along with WCU School of Music faculty Will Peebles and Joy Shea. The trio will present a session called "Hands on Gamelan" which will demonstrate how to translate traditional Gamelan music to Orff and classroom percussion instruments.



Chancellor Belcher playing "Rhapsody in Blue" with ensemble, West conducting.

GREETINGS FROM CULLOWHEE *(Continued from cover)*

Last year, the University's Program Prioritization process identified the graduate program in the School of Music for termination. While we are naturally disappointed in the loss of our small but successful graduate program, we are refocusing our efforts on recruitment and enhancement of our undergraduate programs.

A significant part in this enhancement is our Artist-in-Residence Program, a partnership that will bring professional string musicians from the Asheville Symphony to perform 2-3 orchestral programs each year with our students, plus some additional chamber music and operatic programs as funds allow. It was especially good news to hear over the summer that this very special program survived the university's budget-cutting processes intact! Our season began with a faculty/student side-by-side orchestral concert on Tuesday, Sept. 17, directed by Asheville Symphony conductor Daniel Meyer.

We hope to see many of you at this year's North Carolina Music Educators Association (NCMEA) conference in Winston-Salem. Our alumni reception will again be at the Foothills Brewing Company restaurant from 5-7 p.m. Funding for this reception comes from donations to Friends of the Arts and the School of Music.

I hope that you will all consider a donation to the Friends of the Arts (friendsofthearts.wcu.edu). This organization has raised scholarship money and program assistance funds that are sorely needed in this time of diminishing support from state government. Gifts of any size are helpful. In fact, since the rate of alumni donations to the university is being used as a measure of program quality, your donation of even a small amount will "count" also as evidence of your support of our programs.

In closing, I would like to thank you, as always, for your continued support of the arts in your community. What we do in the arts contributes not only to the economy of our state and nation, but also to our well being as individuals and as a community.

Will Peebles, Director



Have news to share?

Marriages, children, advanced degrees,
new jobs – *we want to know!*

Please send updates, including
new contact information, to
828.227.3263 or gaetano@wcu.edu.

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