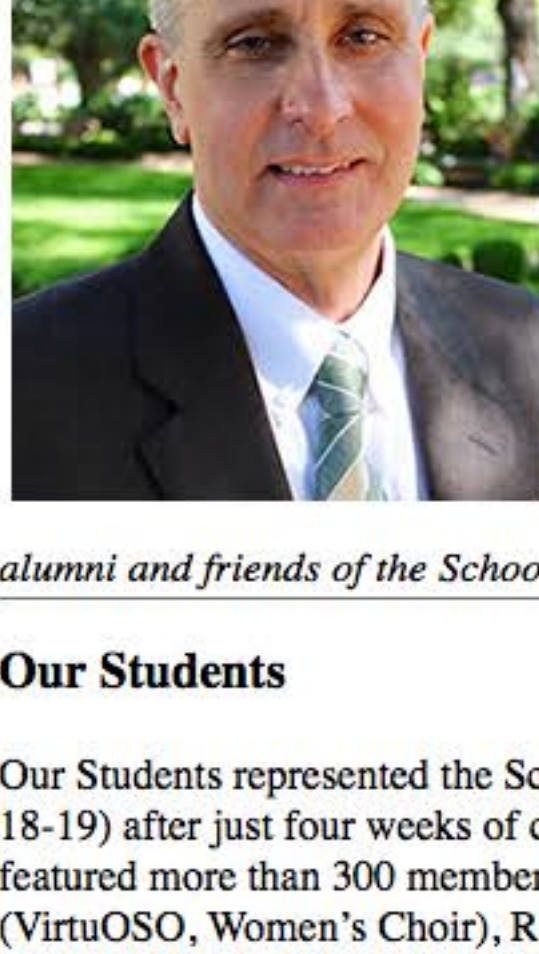




Semper Pro Musica

October 2015 Newsletter



Welcome to *Semper Pro Musica*, the E-Newsletter for the School of Music. If you'll give us ten minutes, four times a year (October, December, February, April) we will fill you in on some of the incredible things our students and faculty are doing both here in Waco and around the nation and world. This format is an extreme condensation of all that we do, but it is efficient and if you want more, just follow the links. I hope that you enjoy learning more about a School of Music like no other in the world.

Musically Yours,
Gary Mortenson, Dean

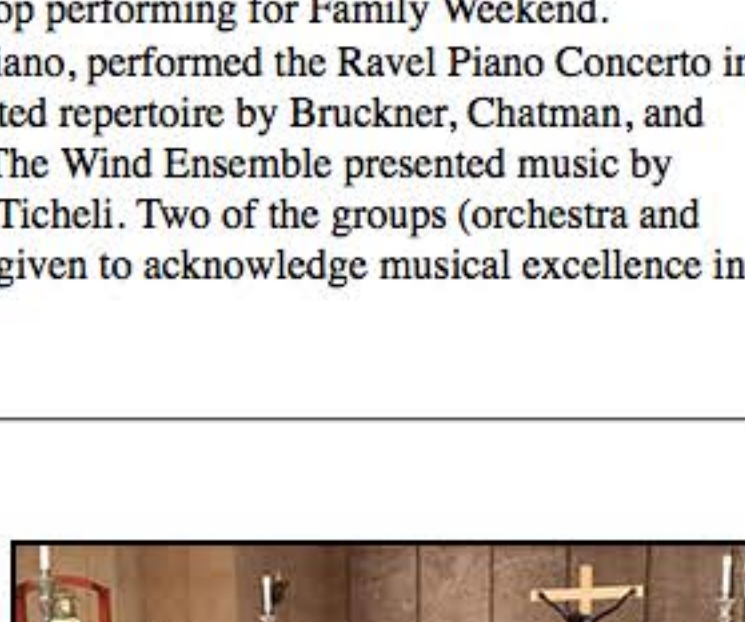
P.S. Please join us Homecoming Weekend at the School of Music Reception on Friday, October 23rd from 3:00 to 5:00 pm in Cox Hall of the Armstrong Browning Library. I look forward to meeting many

alumni and friends of the School at the Reception.

Our Students

Our Students represented the School and the University throughout Family Weekend (September 18-19) after just four weeks of classes. On Friday afternoon six choirs presented twelve pieces that featured more than 300 members of the choral program conducted by Drs. Stephen Gusukuma (VirtuOSO, Women's Choir), Randall Bradley (Men's Choir), Lynne Gackle (Concert Choir, Bella Voce), and Alan Raines (A Cappella). More than 900 people heard the choral concert.

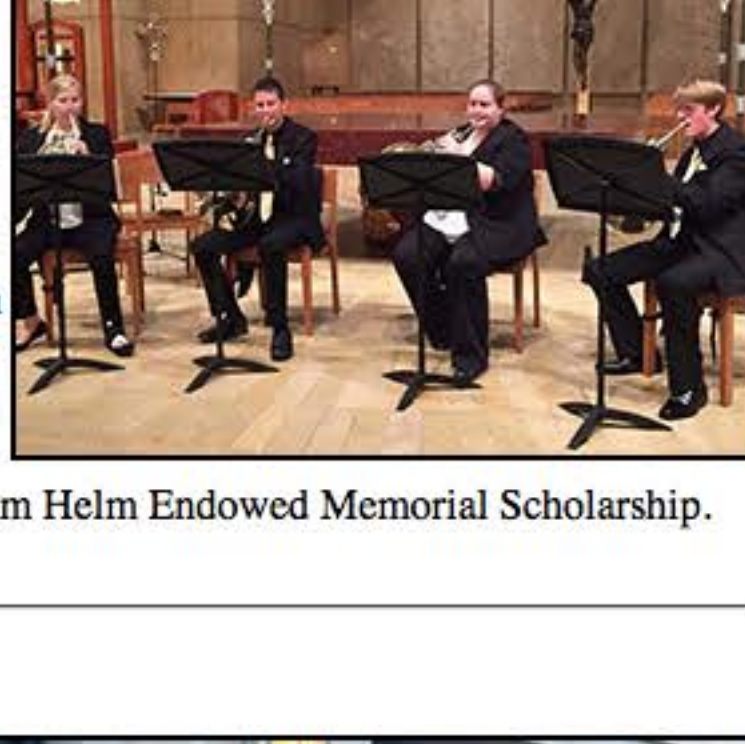
On Saturday morning at 9:00 am the musical events of Family Weekend continued with a spirited performance by the Men's Choir in the lobby of Waco Hall to a standing-room-only crowd of friends and family that included Judge Starr.



On Saturday afternoon, in Jones Hall, the Kaleidoscope Concert presented the Baylor Symphony Orchestra (Stephen Heyde, Director), A Cappella Choir (Alan Raines Director), and the Baylor Wind Ensemble (J. Eric Wilson, Director) winding up a weekend of non-stop performing for Family Weekend.

Krassimira Jordan, Artist-in-Residence and Professor of Piano, performed the Ravel Piano Concerto in G with the Symphony Orchestra. A Cappella Choir presented repertoire by Bruckner, Chatman, and Esenvalds, and two arrangements by Davies and Barnett. The Wind Ensemble presented music by Husa and Reed and an arrangement of Amazing Grace by Ticheli. Two of the groups (orchestra and wind ensemble) are semi-finalists for the American Prize, given to acknowledge musical excellence in the United States.

That Good Ol' Baylor Sound, a horn quartet composed of Lindsay Smith, Hannah Morrison, Tyler Neuffer, and Stephen Buley, won the International Horn Quartet Competition (Non-Professional Division) at the 2015 International Horn Society Symposium in August in Los Angeles. As part of their honors they opened the concert by the American Horn Quartet. One of the pieces performed was a hymn tune setting by Baylor composition major and horn student, Jordan Tucker. All of the students in the quartet are students of Jeffrey Powers. Hannah Morrison further distinguished herself this summer by winning the Texas Bandmasters Associations 2015 Malcolm Helm Endowed Memorial Scholarship.



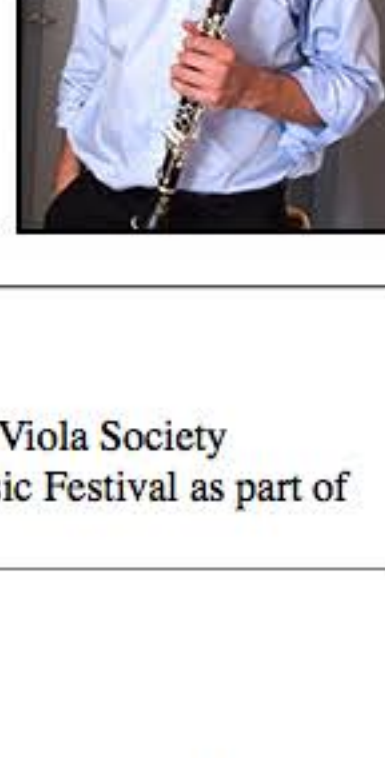
Trumpet Students from the studios of Wiff Rudd and Mark Schubert traveled to Chicago, in September, to participate in a master class given by Robert Sullivan. That evening the group heard a performance by the National Brass Ensemble (NBE) in sold out Orchestra Hall. Members of the NBE are drawn from the nation's finest orchestras including the Boston Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, and the San Francisco Symphony. Several other members of Baylor brass studios were able to travel with the group to Chicago and attend master classes on their specific instruments. The Brass Excellence Fund helped make the trip to Chicago possible. In March of 2015 the Baylor Green Trumpet Ensemble won the National Trumpet Competition's Large Trumpet Ensemble Division Competition in Pennsylvania. To listen to a YouTube recording of that group, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3WWVWTQE4I>



Samuel Boocker, a senior from Omaha, Nebraska, won Third Prize on August 13, 2015, at the Professor Dichler Piano Competition in Vienna, Austria. He studies at Baylor University with Artist-in-Residence Krassimira Jordan. The Professor Dichler Competition is named for its founder, Viennese pianist and professor Josef Dichler (1912-1993). It is held during each course block of the Wiener Musikseminar ("Vienna Music Seminar") at Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts. To enter, students must participate in the master class and learn a piece by a Viennese Classical composer (Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven or Schubert) and one more virtuosic piece (either Romantic or Twentieth Century). Founded in 1970, the Wiener Musikseminar is an internationally acclaimed institution that invites young artists to attend master classes and refine their exceptional skills.



Jake Hale, a senior music education student of Assistant Professor of Clarinet Jun Qian, was chosen as the winner of the principal clarinet chair with the Shreveport Symphony. Jake competed against 19 other clarinetists for the position. This past summer Jake won the Grand Prize at the 2015 International Clarinet Association Orchestral Excerpts Competition in Madrid, Spain.



Hunter Morris (BM performance, viola) won 2nd prize in the 2015 American Viola Society Orchestral Excerpts Competition and received a full scholarship to Eastern Music Festival as part of the prize package.

Sandor Ostlund released his recording Leap of Faith in the spring of 2015 which features music written for him by Baylor composers Scott McAllister, Edward Taylor, and alumnus Matthew Kline, as well as a piece dedicated to him by double bass virtuoso François Rabbath. This past summer, Sandor served as competition chair for the International Society of Bassists Solo Competition, taught and performed at several bass festivals, and completed an Australian tour with the Australian Chamber Orchestra.



Monique Ingalls and co-editor Dr. Amos Yong of Fuller Seminary released The Spirit of Praise: Music and Worship in Global Pentecostal Charismatic Christianity this summer through Pennsylvania State University Press. The volume explores contemporary Pentecostal music across cultural contexts from musicological, sociological, and theological perspectives. A launch reception for the book was held at the Christian Congregational Music Conference in Oxford, UK.



Michele Henry, Michael Alexander, and Russ Gavin, all members of Baylor's Music Education faculty, gave a presentation at the Society for Music Teacher Education conference in Greensboro, North Carolina on the many ways Baylor Music Education faculty and students are engaging with our community through cultural events and programs. The trio of professors shared exciting details and multi-media examples from the Baylor Women's Choir Festival, the Central Texas Wind Ensemble, the Baylor String Project, and OsoMusical with other national leaders in music teacher education. The presentation, in conjunction with other sessions at the conference, is helping to set the national agenda for teacher preparation programs.

Baylor Brass, the faculty brass quintet of the Baylor School of Music, saw a September release of their new CD, Four American Stories. The group is composed of Baylor brass faculty Wiff Rudd and Mark Schubert, trumpets; Jeffrey Powers, horn; Brent Phillips, trombone; and Kent Eshelman, tuba. The CD includes the music of Cheetham, Haufrecht, Plog, and Willis. The recording was funded in part by a University Research Committee Grant, recorded by Rick Carpenter in Jones Hall. The CD includes a previously unrecorded work by Richard Willis (1929-1997), who was Composer-in-Residence at Baylor for 32 years.



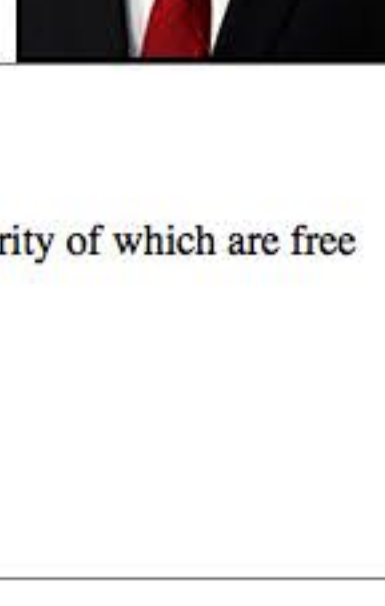
Our Alumni

Our alumni are doing well and staying active all across the United States and beyond. Please submit information (70 words or less) and jpeg images to Kathy Johnson, Assistant to the Dean (kathy_g_johnson@baylor.edu).

- David Pershall, (BM, 2007) was named one of the opera world's 25 rising stars in the October/15 issue of Opera News. He will make his Metropolitan Opera debut on December 26 as Figaro in Il barbiere di Siviglia. To read the full Opera News article visit: [2015 Opera News](#)
- Blair Williams (BME, 2006) was named as an assistant professor to the music education faculty at Texas Tech University where she serves as String Project director.
- Dawson White (BM, 2009) won a position as section viola with the Houston Ballet Orchestra. He is teaching as an adjunct faculty member at Sam Houston State University.
- Alex Trygstad (BM, 2010) is serving as an adjunct professor of viola at Roberts Wesleyan College and as a teaching assistant to Carol Rodland at the Eastman School of Music.
- Katy White (MM, 2012) was named principal viola of the Helena Symphony in Montana.
- Gwendolyn Matias-Ryan (MM, 2015) has been retained to teach strings in Escuela de Bellas Artes, and Esperanza Azteca in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Our Future

Our future development as a school is greatly assisted by the philanthropy of our alumni and friends. Without our endowment resources, faculty and scholarship, infrastructure needs, new instrument purchases, faculty and student travel, and excellence initiatives would not be possible. For more information about how you might help the School of Music travel further down the road of national and international prominence, contact: Clayton Ellis, Director of Development, School of Music (clayton_ellis@baylor.edu) Phone: 254.710.8525.



Our Calendar

Our calendar is filled with more than 200 performances each year the vast majority of which are free to the public. To view our schedule visit: [Calendar](#)

To receive a weekly schedule of School of Music events contact Richard Veit: (Richard_Veit@baylor.edu) Phone: 254.710.1191



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