



BAYLOR

School of Music

*Semper Pro Musica*

## ***April 2017 Newsletter***

***Volume 2, No. 4***

### **From the Dean**



In the February E-Newsletter, I reported to you that the School of Music was going to screen the film *Composed* with director and producer John Beder in attendance. I am pleased to report that *Composed* provided an exceptional platform, for all in attendance, to engage in discussions on many crucial topics that will have a direct impact on quality-of-life issues as time progresses for them. One of the most important components of that evening was the panel discussion that allowed the audience to interact with a diverse group of counseling professionals and faculty that included John Beder, Lesley McAllister, Eric Wilson, Martha Lou Scott, and Elias Barghash (pictured left to right below).

Dealing with stress, ability to focus, substance abuse, setting priorities, time management, interpersonal relationships, professional development, and the realistic pursuit of excellence are all issues that we should be thinking about as we seek to provide “life lessons” for our students. It is not about being perfect ... rather it is about being an empathetic, well-rounded human being, contributing to the greater good through our collective passion for music. *Composed* helped those in attendance to think about priorities and allowed us to talk about the right things in the right ways.



*"Composed" panel discusses the film after the viewing*

I believe that we need to do more of this in higher education in today's complex climate. Toward that end, we will be bringing Miranda George to campus to speak at our Fall Convocation on Tuesday, August 29, at 4:00 pm in Roxy Grove Hall. She will present a slightly shorter version of the talk she gave to a standing-room-only audience at TMEA this past February. The title of that presentation was "Antidotes for Performance Anxiety: Teaching Confidence." This should be a great way to keep timely conversations going and help launch the School of Music off to a thoughtful 2017-18 academic year.

The School of Music has successfully completed the second-annual Semper Pro Musica Solo and Chamber Music Competition and looks forward to presenting the fourteen student winners in their Carnegie Hall debuts on Thursday, May 25, 2017, at 8:00 pm in Weill Recital Hall, New York City. There are some extremely excited young people looking forward to their trip to NYC May 24-27 next month. Read more about the competition and the winners chosen to represent Baylor University in this issue of the Newsletter.

Gary Mortenson – Dean  
School of Music

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## Alumni Spotlight



**Giancarlo Guerrero** earned his Bachelor of Music degree in Percussion Performance from the School of Music at Baylor University in 1991. While at Baylor, he also studied conducting with Michael Haithcock and Stephen Heyde before receiving a master's degree in conducting from Northwestern University. Born in Managua, Nicaragua, Mr. Guerrero was raised in Costa Rica, played in the Costa Rica Youth Symphony, and while still in his teens, became a percussionist with the Costa Rican National Symphony Orchestra.

Giancarlo Guerrero has served as Music Director of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra since 2009. Prior to that, he was conductor of the Tachira (Venezuela) Symphony Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, and the Eugene (Oregon) Symphony Orchestra. He has guest conducted with such ensembles as the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, the Filharmónica de Buenos Aires, and the

Cleveland Orchestra.

At the 59th-Annual Grammy Awards, held in Los Angeles on Sunday, February 12, 2017, he won top honors in two classical categories, and the Nashville Symphony Orchestra (NSO), for which he serves as Music Director, was included in yet another. These two latest awards bring Giancarlo's total to five during his ever-expanding career on the concert stage. In 2011, his first recording with the NSO, Michael Daugherty's *Metropolis Symphony* and *Deux Ex Machina*, earned him Grammy Awards for Best Orchestral Performance and Best Engineered Classical Album (and, for Daugherty alone, Best Classical Composition). In 2012, Mr. Guerrero won a Grammy for Best Classical Instrumental Solo, along with percussionist Christopher Lamb, in a performance of Joseph Schwantner's *Concerto for Percussion*. At the 2017 Grammy Awards in the category of Best Classical Compendium, Giancarlo and the Nashville Symphony Orchestra were honored for their recording of Michael Daugherty's *Tales of Hemingway, American Gothic, and Once Upon a Castle*. For Best Classical Instrumental Solo, Guerrero and the NSO were honored, with cellist Zuill Bailey, for Daugherty's *Tales of Hemingway*. And in the category of Best Contemporary Classical Composition, Michael Daugherty was singled out for his *Tales of Hemingway* on the strength of the acclaimed Guerrero/NSO performance. (Awards for Best Contemporary Classical Composition go solely to a work's composer, not to the performers).

Giancarlo Guerrero serves on Baylor University's School of Music Board of Advocates. He truly represents the school's commitment to excellence in all aspects of his stellar career, as it continues to unfold with ever-increasing worldwide recognition of his musical talents.

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## **Our Students**

### **School of Music Students to Perform in Carnegie Hall**

On Sunday, February 12, 2017, fifteen soloists and four chamber groups participated in the finals of the Semper Pro Musica Solo and Chamber Music Competition in Jones Concert Hall in the McCrary Music Building. This was the last step in a two-round process that began late in the fall 2016 semester and involved 25% of the School's student population.

A panel of three external judges began hearing solo finalists at 1:00 pm in the afternoon and ended at the conclusion of the chamber music finals at 6:00 pm, after which they began their deliberations. Student winners were announced during a brief ceremony that concluded a day of high-level music making from each and every competitor. The judges for the finals were Bradley Moore (Houston Grand Opera), John Owings (Texas Christian University), and Mary Ellen Poole (The University of Texas at Austin).

The five winners of the solo competition included: Ricardo Gómez (violin), Yera Kim (piano), Casey Klopp (mezzo-soprano), David Medina (percussion), and Spencer Sosnowski (saxophone). The three chamber groups selected as winners included a trio composed of Zachary Barba (tenor voice), Stephen Buley (horn), and Sara Steele (piano); the Morpheme Saxophone Quartet, whose members include Spencer Sosnowski (soprano sax), Patrick Lenz (alto sax), Mollie McInnis (tenor sax), and Mitchell Brackett (baritone sax); and the Ursino String Quartet that included Ricardo Gómez and Molly Hines (violin), Joshua Thaver (viola), and William Danheim (cello).



*Winners of the 2017 Semper Pro Musica Solo and Chamber Music Competition*

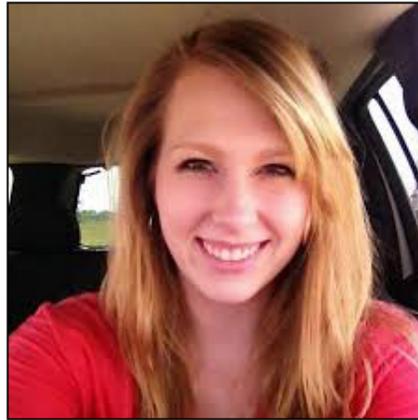
These fourteen students will travel to New York City May 24-27 and will perform in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall on Thursday, May 25, 2017, at 8:00 pm. Tickets are available for this performance through the Carnegie Hall Box Office or through the Baylor University School of Music by contacting Jillian Gusukuma ([jill\\_gusukuma@baylor.edu](mailto:jill_gusukuma@baylor.edu)).

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**Jared Cook**, organ student of Isabelle Demers, has won second prize in the undergraduate division of the Hall Competition.

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**Briana Compton**, MM tuba student of Kent Eshelman, was a finalist in the Mika Hasler Young Artist Competition. The competition is open to all instrumentalists age 23 and under. She was also selected, by recording, as a semi-finalist for the Texas Young Artist competition.

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**Jillian Gardner**, organ student of Isabelle Demers, is the first musician to record Albert Lewis Barnes's *Sonate Cromatique*. The recording is available online and via YouTube.

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**Shelby Mitchell**, flute student of Charlotte Daniel, was awarded First Prize in the undergraduate division of the 2nd-Annual Maverick Flute Competition, held at the University of Texas at Arlington. One of four finalists who performed for a panel of three judges, she played Jacques Ibert's *Piece for*

*Solo Flute.*

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**Joseph Noelliste**, PhD student in Church Music, has been invited to present a paper at the 4th Biennial Louisiana State University Music Colloquium. His paper, titled “Give Ear to my Words, Oh Lord: Dual Responses to Oppression in Ulysses Kay’s *Choral Triptych*,” was developed under the guidance of Dr. Horace Maxile. This work is a setting of two Psalm texts, followed by an exuberant Alleluia, and is one of the most widely performed works of Ulysses Kay’s choral repertoire. The work was composed in 1962, during the start of the civil rights movement and shortly before Kay’s own wife was imprisoned in Jackson, Mississippi, for freedom fighting throughout the south. Joseph’s paper seeks to enhance comprehension of *Choral Triptych* by integrating its historical context, theological significance, and musical structure through a close examination of the work as a whole.

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**The Morpheme Saxophone Quartet** performed at the 2017 Texas A&M University Chamber Ensemble Symposium. While there, they played all five movements of David Maslanka’s *Recitation Book* with the composer in attendance. During the Symposium, the group was privileged to spend an hour with the composer, who coached them on his composition. David Wilborn, associate professor of music at Texas A&M and organizer of the Symposium, wrote the following words in a follow-up communication with the group: “The audience learned so much from your interaction with Mr. Maslanka. I know first-hand that he was impressed with your talents and enjoyed the opportunity to work with you. I have no doubt that your time with him will serve a long and lasting impression for many years to come. Overall, our Symposium was a huge success, and your participation played a vital role. We are truly indebted to you.” The Morpheme Saxophone Quartet was one of the chamber music winners in the Semper Pro Musica Chamber Music Competition and will be performing *In Memoriam* by Joel Love in Weill Recital Hall on May 25, 2017. Mr. Love has been coaching the group on his piece and will be in attendance in New York City when the quartet plays his composition in the Carnegie Hall Complex.



*The Morpheme Saxophone Quartet with David Maslanka*

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**The Baylor University Golden Wave Band**, directed by Isaiah Odajima, has been selected for presentation at the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) as representing “the best in achievement of excellence for performance and effectiveness.” The competitive selection process included submissions from university marching bands nationwide and included marching shows from the last two seasons. Each video was vetted and ranked by a judging panel of university marching band directors and reviewed by the Athletic Band Committee of CBDNA. The Golden Wave Band was one of only eight college marching ensembles chosen for presentation at the national conference, which was held March 15-17 in Kansas City, Missouri. Baylor’s submission was from the 2016 Homecoming halftime show, which featured a *Star Wars* tribute. This was the second time the Golden Wave Band has been selected to receive this honor. The first was in 2013.



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**The Baylor University Horn Choir**, directed by Jeffrey Powers, presented works by Engelbert Humperdinck, Johann Sebastian Bach, and James Naigus in a pre-concert program prior to the Abilene (TX) Philharmonic Orchestra concert on Saturday, January 28, 2017. The ensemble was composed of Lisbeth Barrera, Jerrick Cendejas, Glenn Hanna, Jenna Lenhard, Brooks Moore, Tyler Neuffer, Hunter Poe, Seth Rodríguez, and Kristine Smith.

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**The Baylor University Jazz Trombone Consort** was the runner-up to the University of Illinois Jazz Trombone Ensemble in the 2017 Kai Winding Jazz Trombone Ensemble Competition, run by the International Trombone Association. The judges for the competition included Victor Barranco (U.S. Army Blues), James Burton III (Juilliard), and Dante Luciani (University of Miami). In other ITA competitions, it has been announced that **Austin Westjohn** will be a finalist in the Marsteller Tenor Trombone Solo Competition and that **Nicholas Halbig** will be a finalist in the Larry Wiehe Tenor

Trombone Competition. Both are students of Brent Phillips and will travel to ITA's 2017 Conference this June at the University of Redlands in California.

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**The Baylor University Trumpet Studio** was well represented and enjoyed great success at the 2017 National Trumpet Competition (NTC) in late March in Colorado. Fourteen members of the studio, as well as professors Alex Parker, Mark Schubert, and Wiff Rudd, traveled to Metropolitan State University of Denver for this year's NTC competition. Both trumpet ensembles and eleven soloists competed in the semi-final rounds with unprecedented success.



*L-R: Sally Tepper, Wiff Rudd, Clare Hogan, Mark Schubert*

**Baylor “Green”** advanced to the final round in the Large Ensemble Division, along with Southern Methodist University and Florida State University, claiming Baylor's fourth First Prize. This is the seventh win for Baylor Trumpets since 2009.

Ten Baylor soloists performed in the Undergraduate Solo Division, in which there were 38 undergraduate competitors chosen from 157 recorded applications. **Sally Tepper** advanced to the finals, winning 2nd Prize; our single graduate student, **Clare Hogan**, and four Baylor alumni competed in the Graduate Solo Division. Clare moved on to the finals, winning 3rd Prize. Additionally, Alex Parker's son, Ryan, performed beautifully in the High School Division.

#### **Baylor “Green”**

Abby Barto (Freshman BME)  
Ryan Fitzgerald (Sophomore BME)  
Luke Hoeft (Sophomore BM)  
Ryan McArthur (Sophomore BME)  
Brian Méndez (Junior BME)  
Tyler Moore (Freshman BM)  
Ross Mitchell (Sophomore BME)  
Joey Tkach (Freshman BM)



*Baylor Green Trumpet Ensemble*

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## Our Faculty



**David Music** has published an article titled “Early New England Psalmody and American Folk Hymns in the Tune Books of Thomas Hastings” in the peer-reviewed *Journal of the Society for American Music*. Dr. Music is Professor of Church Music.

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**Randall Umstead** has been elected as the governor of the Texoma Region of the National Association

of Teachers of Singing (NATS). He will take office in July of 2017. He is currently serving his second term as President of the Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of NATS. At Baylor, Dr. Umstead is the inaugural Charles W. Evans Chair in Voice, serves as Director of the Voice Division, and serves on the Executive Committee of Baylor's Faculty Senate. In August of 2017 and upon the retirement of Dr. Georgia Green, Dr. Umstead will assume the duties of Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in the School of Music.

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### **Baylor "Most Impactful Educators" Awards Addendum:**

In the February E-Newsletter, we incorrectly reported that during the fall/2016 semester five professors were recognized by freshman and transfer students as being "most influential" in their success at Baylor. The correct number of professors who garnered this designation was thirteen. Out of the 2,700 full-time faculty and staff at Baylor, only 150 (5%) had at least three students say that they were responsible for their success in getting acclimated to Baylor. The complete list from the School of Music who received this recognition is as follows: Charlotte Daniel (flute), Lynne Gackle (choral), Stephen Gusukuma (choral), Michael Jacobson (saxophone), Scott McAllister (composition), Kathy McNeil (voice), Isaiah Odajima (bands), Jeffrey Powers (horn), Wiff Rudd (trumpet), Kathryn Steely (viola), Curtis Streetman (voice), Randy Umstead (voice), and Deborah Williamson (voice).

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### **Our Alumni**



**Emily Snider Andrews** (MM 2012 Church Music, M.Div 2012 Truett Seminary) is serving as Instructor of Music and Worship in the School of the Arts at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. Emily is a PhD candidate in Theology, concentrating in Christian Worship, at Fuller Theological Seminary. Her research interests include studies of evangelical worship, sacramental theology, and intersections between music and theology. Emily has maintained an active role in various music ministries, serving congregations in Alabama, Texas, and California.

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**Judy Bozone** (BM composition, 2005) is professor of composition at Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand. She completed her BM in composition at Baylor, with minors in philosophy and history, before completing her MM and DMA at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre, and Dance. She has been a participant at the Bang on A Can and Aspen Music Festivals. Judy's music actively explores texture, tonality, and space while maintaining a strong perspective, influenced and fascinated by both the sonic and visual arts. Composers Michael Colgrass and David Lang have respectively identified Judy as having a "voice of her own" and "offering a unique beauty." At Mahidol University, Judy teaches composition, electronic music, advanced orchestration, and form and analysis.

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**Anthony Blake Clark** (BM 2014 in choral conducting) has been named the third music director of the Baltimore Choral Arts Society in its 51-year history. Clark replaces Tom Hall, who has served for 35 years in that position. Maestro Clark currently serves as the director of music and worship arts at Chevy Chase United Methodist Church and as artistic director of St. Maries Choral Arts in Southern Maryland. He is also director of the Richmond Women's Chorus. Clark's past experience includes work as assistant chorus master for John Eliot Gardiner's performance of Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex* with the Berlin Philharmonic and work with several groups in England. As he assumes his duties with the Baltimore Choral Arts Society, he hopes to build bridges within the Baltimore community so that all socio-economic classes and the rich diversity of Baltimore can appreciate and experience the music. In his own words: "Choral music breeds community, awareness, and compassion."

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**Nathan Fleshner** (BME 1999, MM in theory 2005) has accepted a new position as Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Tennessee – Knoxville.

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**Noel Martin** (BM violin, 1998) is teaching violin in the Philippines. His goal is to promote advocacy of teaching underprivileged children to play the violin by providing free lessons. He studied violin at Baylor with Bruce Berg. His additional violin teachers have included Fredell Lack, Margaret Pardee, Josef Gingold, and Kenneth Goldsmith. In 2009, while performing in Panama, Noel became acquainted with *El Sistema*, a program originating in Venezuela that inspired him to work with young violinists in developing countries. He received an invitation to come to the Philippines from Sistemang Pilipino, a non-profit organization, and was inspired to travel to Cebu, where he has been teaching violin to a group of underprivileged children. Noel began to understand the impact of teaching in this type of program after seeing tangible progress with the children as early as four weeks into the program. One of his private students, Misha Romano, who lives in Dipolog City, recently won the prize for the string category (violin) at the 2016 National Music Competition for Young Artists (NAMCYA). Misha had studied with Martin both in person and via Skype. Noel continues his work through the Ayala Foundation through Coke Bolipata by teaching selected students from the Center of Excellence in Public Elementary Schools in Tondo, Manila. He hopes to meet more people and reach more students through schools and organizations so that he can continue his advocacy and raise musical standards throughout the Philippines.

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**Eric Mathis** (MM 2007 Church Music, M.Div 2007 Truett Seminary) serves as Chair of Academic Studies and Area Coordinator for Music and Worship at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in music and worship and has recently been named program director of anima: The Center for Worship and the Arts at Samford. Before moving to Alabama, Eric taught as an adjunct professor at Azusa Pacific University and Baylor University. He has maintained an active role in various music ministries, serving congregations in Missouri, Illinois, Texas, and California, and he is now on the music staff at Dawson Memorial Baptist Church.

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**Mia Orosco** (BM violin, 2016) is continuing her education at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music under the guidance of Kevork Mardirossian, an esteemed performer and pedagogue. Mia studied violin at Baylor with Eka Gogichashvili. One of the recent highlights of her professional activities included her participation as a member of the first violin section in a student chamber orchestra concert led by Joshua Bell. For the summer of 2017, Mia has been accepted to the Schleswig-Holstein Orchestra Academy in Germany with a full financial award, in addition to receiving the Marketing/PR internship position with the National Repertory Orchestra. Over spring break, Mia presented "An Evening of Gershwin" for the National Repertory Orchestra and will return to Waco in April to present an alumna recital.

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**Matthew J. Pool** (BM organ, 2012), a student of Joyce Jones, is the Associate Music Director/Conductor for the national tour of the musical *Annie*. He previously toured with *The Wizard of Oz*.

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**John Wilson** (BM, 2003 and MM, 2005 in musicology) is a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Vienna. He completed the PhD from Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna. John has presented multiple papers on the music of Ludwig van Beethoven and has also written on Gustav Mahler. Several papers deal with key relationships in the music of Beethoven. These include “Beethoven, D minor, and Ombra from operatic tradition to instrumental topos,” “Of Hunting, Horns, and Heroes: A brief history of E-flat major before Eroica,” and “Topos and Tonality in the Age of Beethoven: what the opera, musical topos, and key characteristics have to tell us about meaning in his music.”

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## **Our Future**

**Board of Advocates** On April 21, the School of Music will host the second meeting of the Baylor University School of Music Board of Advocates. The board is composed of alumni and business and professional leaders who are committed to the vitality of the School of Music at Baylor University. The Board helps the School of Music to strengthen its educational, creative, research, and outreach programs, improve its facilities, expand its base of support, and serve its alumni.

The 2017 Board of Advocates includes Oliver and Greta Abtahi, Cory and Amy Anderson, Babs

Baugh, Wayne Fisher, Ben Gatzke, Georgia Green, Giancarlo Guerrero, Carey and Stacie Hendrickson, Kurt Kaiser, Trammell Kelly, Kevin and Carole Lyons, Lyndon Olson, Jr., Allison Peterson, Nathan and Michal Taylor, James Williams, and Betty Wilson.

If you are interested in joining the Board of Advocates or giving to the School of Music, please contact Clayton Ellis, Director of Development, School of Music, Baylor University:  
Clayton\_Ellis@baylor.edu

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## Our Calendar

The School of Music presents more than 350 performances each year, the vast majority of which are free to the public. To view our schedule, visit: <http://www.baylor.edu/music/index.php?id=863427>

Performances of Baylor's major ensembles in Jones Concert Hall are presented via live web streaming. To access the schedule and link to live streamed events, visit: <https://www.baylor.edu/Music/index.php?id=935526> NOTE: Baylor does not archive live-streamed performances.

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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