BAYLOR School of Music

Dro Musica

December 2017 Newsletter

Volume 3, No. 2

From the Dean



As I write this column, we are in the middle of one of the busiest times of our academic year here at Baylor University. This is a time of intense rehearsals, studying for finals, and spiritual reflection as the Christmas season approaches. Indeed, Jones Concert Hall and Armstrong Browning Library are alive as our choirs and orchestra prepare for Christmas concerts in these two spaces. Once again, *A Baylor Christmas* sold out all of its performances in a single day. The 2016 performances of this holiday tradition are being recognized with a First Place Texas Associated Press Broadcasters Award for a Documentary/TV Magazine or Special, and with a nomination for a 2017 Lone Star Emmy Award in the "Arts/Entertainment – Program/Special" category. We are extremely grateful for our continuing collaboration with Gray Television Inc. and KWTX television that brings *A Baylor Christmas* to households all across the United States during the Christmas Season.

Applications for the 2018 Semper Pro Musica Solo and Chamber Music Competition were due this week. I am pleased to report that this year, with more than 120 students participating in the first round, we have exceeded the participation rate from the competition's two previous years of existence. Almost 30% of the student body is now competing for a chance to represent Baylor University in New York City next May. We have expanded the competition this year to include two nights of concerts, with the winner of the Organ Competition to be presented at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church on Wednesday, May 23, and the winners of the Solo and Chamber Music Competition to be presented the following evening on Thursday, May 24, in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Both concerts will begin at 8:00 pm. If you are interested in attending these events in New York City, please contact Jillian Gusukuma (jill_gusukuma@baylor.edu).

Finally, the School of Music is making great strides in developing ways to more effectively tell our stories. What started with this quarterly E-Newsletter has grown into a social media campaign the includes FaceBook, Instagram, Twitter, and a site that now houses videos featuring the Baylor Symphony Orchestra, A Cappella Choir, and Chamber Singers, and, over time, will grow to include many more videos featuring all of our major performing ensembles. We also plan to develop videos that feature subjects related to academics and outreach activities generated through the School of Music. There are indeed lots of great stories to tell! The direct link to

the video site is here: https://www.baylor.edu/music/index.php?id=947095

Thank you for your support of the School of Music, and enjoy the rest of the newsletter.

Gary Mortenson – Dean School of Music

In the Spotlight

Spotlight on Outreach

This fall, the School of Music was featured in *Baylor News: News for the Baylor University Community* (Vol. 27, No. 4: Fall 2017). The two-page feature, *Music for All*, was put together by Maxcey Blaylock and was included in the *Pro Ecclesia, Pro Texana* section in the magazine with the subheading "Baylor University invests resources and knowledge and develops servant leaders to pursue partnerships that benefit the Waco community, the State of Texas, the nation and the world."



Ms. Blaylock developed the article into four sections:

For the Smallest Ears documented the unbroken tradition, dating back to 1946, that brings together fourth- and fifth-grade students from Waco and surrounding areas to Waco Hall for Children's Concerts, featuring the Baylor Symphony Orchestra and organized by the Waco Symphony Association.

For Unique Learners informed readers about Oso Musical, a program for children with special needs, ages four through eighteen, who learn about music from School of Music students in a format resembling an elementary general music class.

For Young Voices highlighted the work that Lynne Gackle and Florence Scattergood undertook to form the Youth Chorus of Central Texas, as an opportunity to promote music literacy and excellence in vocal artistry through the preparation and performance of choral singing.

Music Around the World closed the article by highlighting the School of Music's collaboration with Baylor

Missions by informing readers of two overseas summer trips that took place in 2017. This included the Jazz Ensemble's trip to Greece and the Men's Choir trip to Kenya.

While these four examples of Baylor's musical outreach were notable, they still form just the "tip of the iceberg" that encompasses the full extent of the School's outreach activities. Indeed, "Music for All" is ultimately driven by Baylor's commitment to faith-based music education that demonstrates a commitment to uniting service and music to transform lives and to show that the power, majesty, and joy of music are for everyone.

Spotlight on "Old Is New Again" Technology

Nearly fifty years ago, Richard Willis (Baylor composition professor, 1962-96) chose to purchase an ARP 2600 for the composition studio (roughly 1700 were made). One of Dr. Willis's former students, Eric Senzig, vividly remembers being "fascinated" with the analog synthesizer when he worked on Dr. Willis's assignments.

About fifteen years ago, teenager Paul Millar (Dr. Jana Millar's son) was given access to experiment with the composition studio's electronic equipment. The ARP 2600 was the first modular synthesizer he ever played. Today, Paul is a nationally recognized electronic music instrument repair technician. This summer, the School of Music sent the ARP to "Switched On" in Austin for Paul to restore. It was such an important part of his history that Paul delivered and demonstrated the ARP to the composition studio this September. Andy Sierra will perform on the ARP during the composition concert at the end of the fall 2017 semester.

The Music Composition Studio's electronic music lab has one more keyboard-related bit of news to deliver: the lab is the new home for one of Baylor's old Steinway B pianos. The piano will soon undergo a few more adjustments, but it has already been used in a number of recording and sampling projects.

Thank you, Dr. Jacobson, Dr. Marks, Craig Waldrop, Darren Roos, and many others for making this all possible. Next year we hope to restore another electronic instrument that Dr. Willis acquired: the Electrocomp 400/401 (roughly 300 were made).

Our Students

On November 12, 2017, the **Baylor Flute Studio** and **The University of Texas at Austin Flute Studio** hosted a benefit concert at Seventh and James Baptist Church. The concert was titled *Sounds of Solidarity: A Benefit Recital for Hurricane Relief.* During a day-long retreat, the two studios performed for each other, and the two flute professors, Charlotte Daniel (Baylor) and Marianne Gedigian (UT-Austin), coordinated the master classes and rehearsals. The humanitarian goal of the collaboration was to raise funds to assist the needs of the millions of victims of the devastating hurricanes that hit the United States and the Caribbean Islands earlier this fall. During the concert, students from each studio gave personal testimony on how the hurricanes had affected their families and friends. More than thirty flute students participated in the day's activities. The charitable organization the flute students chose to support was Direct Relief, a non-profit humanitarian aid organization that seeks to improve the health and lives of people affected by poverty or emergency situations by mobilizing and providing medical resources needed for their care. The students created a link for donations (www.crowdrise.com/sounds-of-solidarity).



On October 29, 2017, the **Baylor University Music Educators Association** (BUMEA) held their annual "Clean Up a Classroom" event. BUMEA members traveled to Waco High School to work in their choir room. In addition to cleaning, they also decorated the rehearsal hall and spent the day with the directors and several of the WHS choir students.



The **Baylor Clarinet Choir** performed at the 2017 International Clarinet Association Conference (ICA) in Orlando, Florida. This annual conference is the most important clarinet conference in the world. The Baylor group was one of six college groups selected to perform at the conference. **Talia Dugan**, a freshman BME major in the clarinet studio, was a finalist in the ICA Orchestral Excerpts Competition. She was one of only twelve competitors who advanced to the final round and was the youngest to compete in the finals. Stanley Drucker, former principal clarinet of the New York Philharmonic, served as one of the judges for the Excerpts Competition.



For the last fifteen or so years, the **Baylor Men's Choir** has invited Central Texas high schools to bring their choir guys to Baylor to spend the better part of the day making music and interacting with the Baylor Men's Choir. This year's *Men's Day Out* was the largest ever, with over six hundred high school men participating in the day's activities. The students worked on three pieces of music, enjoyed pizza together, and talked about the joys of making music and how music enriches their lives. Three Baylor choral faculty members worked with the massive choir throughout the day. Students from the following schools participated in Men's Day Out: Midway High School, China Spring High School, Montgomery High School, Temple High School, Belton High School, Robinson High School, Gatesville High School, Lorena High School, and all the high schools in the Fort Worth Independent School District. The Baylor Men's Choir organizes the day and serves as the event sponsor as a way of reaching out to and supporting young men through the joy of singing together.



Brianna Compton, MM student in Tuba Peformance, was the only tubist selected for the Brevard Music Center Summer Festival, where she also was selected as one of the winners of the festival's concerto competition. For

the second consecutive year, she was selected as one of ten semi-finalists to compete in the live rounds of the Artist Tuba Division of the 2017 Leonard Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Competition in Michigan.



Austin Crumrine, MM student in Tuba Performance, published an interview with Norwegian tubist Daniel Herskedal in the *International Tuba-Euphonium Association Journal* (Volume 44, Number 2).



Chandler Davis, BME in saxophone, won the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Young Artists solo competition on Saturday, November 4, 2017. The competition was held on the campus of Baylor University, and sixteen individual college-level soloists from around the state of Texas participated in the woodwind division. Chandler, a student of Michael Jacobson, will advance to the division-level competition, to be held on the campus of Northwestern State University in Nachitoches, Louisiana, on January 14, 2018. Chandler is a member of the Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, and Parallax Saxophone Quartet.



Sam Eatherton, Church Music DMA student, performed an organ recital on July 26 at the Institute on Worship, Preaching, and Church Music at Grace Lutheran Church on the campus of Concordia University–Chicago. He also presented lectures on Musical Catechesis and Children and Worship. Sam presented a paper at the Lutheran Music Culture Conference, September 14-16, at the University of Uppsala, Sweden. His article "Lutheran Sunday School Hymnals in English in the United States, 1819-1901," was published in the Summer 2017 issue of the journal *THE HYMN*.



Ethan Gordon, BME student, was selected as one of six semi-finalists to compete in the live rounds of the Student Tuba Division of the 2017 Leonard Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Competition in Michigan.



Casey LeVie, BME in Choral Music, was the recipient of the *Donald Bailey Student Scholarship and TCDA General Fund Scholarship*, based on academic excellence.



Marissa Mitchell, MM in Clarinet Performance, was selected to participate in the Philadelphia Music House intensive program during the summer of 2017. This program allows young professionals the opportunity to work with musicians from the Philadelphia Orchestra on solo literature, chamber music, and orchestral audition repertoire, and also to perform in mock auditions. The program is held on the estate-like grounds of Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania.



Nathan Myrick, Ph.D. Candidate in Church Music, presented a paper entitled "The Music of Repair: Care Ethics in Congregational Song" at the National Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, in late October. Nathan's well-received presentation drew from his ethnographic research at Lake Shore Baptist Church in Waco to address how congregational music is involved in both the rupture and restoration of relationships among individuals and church communities. In this photo from the Denver conference, he is seen alongside Dr. Monique Ingalls, Assistant Professor of Church Music.



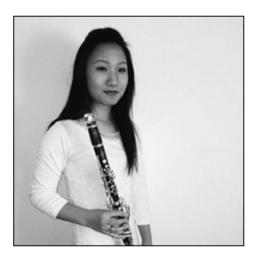
The Parallax Saxophone Quartet participated in the Collegiate Chamber Music Competition of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Young Artists on Sunday, November 5, 2017. The competition was held on the campus of Baylor University, and eleven individual college-level groups (all saxophone quartets) from around the state of Texas participated in the woodwind division. The Parallax Quartet was awarded a First Honorable Mention by the judges of the event. The group consists of Mitchell Brackett, Cameron Clements, Chandler Davis, and John Wardlaw, all music majors and members of Michael Jacobson's saxophone studio at Baylor University.



Marcell Steuernagel, Church Music Ph.D. candidate, was named a Baylor Conyers Scholar for 2016-2017 and was awarded a Baylor Libraries Summer Teaching Fellowship in 2017. In the spring and summer of 2017, he published three academic articles in a journal, an edited book, and a hymnal companion. He presented research papers at six conferences, including international conferences in Hamburg, Germany, and Oxford, England, and his Brazil-based band Golgotha released the album *Sinais*. He also received a dissertation travel grant from the Baylor Graduate School and the School of Music to conduct ethnographic fieldwork for his Ph.D. dissertation at a church in Pelotas, Brazil.



Julie Yu, BM in Clarinet Performance, was one of four clarinetists invited by the Round Top Festival Institute to participate in their six-week summer program that featured intensive training for young musicians who hope to transition into professional orchestral careers. Julie studies clarinet with Baylor clarinet professor Jun Qian.



Our Faculty

Baylor Brass Quintet/Faculty in residence at the Mountain Light Music Festival - Pagosa Springs, Colorado

The Baylor Brass were featured this summer at the Mountain Light Music Festival, August 6-12. School of Music faculty Wiff Rudd, Mark Schubert, Jeff Powers, Brent Phillips, and Kent Eshelman spent the week planning for the Baylor Brass area semester, rehearsing new literature, planning concerts for the upcoming year, and performing.

The Mountain Light Music Festival is based at the Mountain Light Lodge in the heart of the San Juan Mountains. This unique festival features musicians of the highest caliber and seeks to inspire and engage audiences in Southwest Colorado. The Baylor Brass performed an outdoor "Friends of Baylor Brass" concert for the Cade Creek Community at an elevation of 9,400 feet, and they also presented a full recital in Pagosa Springs, hosted by the Wyndham Resort Center. The concert delighted audiences from the valley and served as a significant fundraiser and start-up campaign for future festivals. To learn more about Mountain Light Music Festivals, visit the organization's website (https://youtu.be/M6ZV2KpjEpQ).

The Baylor Brass's final concert was presented to a sold-out audience at the Wyndham Resort and was hosted by the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society. Other sponsors for the event included the Pagosa Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, Baylor University Arts and Humanities Development, Jim Smith Realty, Wyndham Corporation, and Voice of Wilderness Outdoor Programming.

This festival is growing in popularity and support from the citizens and businesses in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Brent Phillips, trombone professor at Baylor, began this festival three years ago and hosted a trombone symposium with members of the Houston Grand Opera/Ballet and trombone students from Rice, SMU, University of Houston, and Colorado State University. The inaugural trombone summit featured chamber music, clinics, performances, and an overnight backpacking trip into the Weminuche Wilderness.

Next year, the Baylor Brass will again be in residence, August 5-11, 2018, along with two additional student quintets. These students from Baylor and other universities will collaborate in large brass choir performances, quintet performances, chamber coaching sessions, master classes, and lessons alongside the Baylor faculty. The Baylor School of Music looks forward to bringing other faculty and student groups to the Mountain Light Music Festival in the years ahead.



Alfredo Colman, Associate Professor of Musicology/Ethnomusicology, has presented a conference paper titled "The *Canciones populares* of Florentín Giménez: Re-imagining a Cultural and Musical Identity" on the music of Paraguayan composer Florentín Giménez (b. 1925) at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM) in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Colman also presented a paper on Giménez during the Annual Conference of the British Forum for Ethnomusicology (BFE) at the University of Sheffield. For more details, download this pdf file:

https://c.ymcdn.com/sites/ethnomusicology.site-ym.com/resource/resmgr /docs/NewsItem_Paraguayan_music_ss.pdf



Monique M. Ingalls, Assistant Professor of Church Music, presented a paper at the national Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, in late October and will present at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (Washington, D.C.) in December. She also organized and will chair a roundtable discussion at the Princeton World Christianity Conference (Princeton, New Jersey) in January 2018, discussing how musical scholarship can contribute to a better understanding of Christian communities around the world.



David W. Music, Professor of Church Music, has published an article titled "Turning Points in Baptist Church Music," in *Baptist History and Heritage* 52, No. 3 (Fall 2017), 65-77. He has also published two hymn arrangements with MorningStar Music for SATB and piano. These include "The Garden Hymn" (#MSM-50-8965) and "O Jesus, My Savior" (#MSM-50-3935).



Jun Qian, Assistant Professor of Clarinet, has released a new CD for solo clarinet through Albany Records titled *West Meets East*. The recording is composed of clarinet music by Western composers influenced by Chinese culture. This recording is the third in a series of recordings by Professor Qian that explores the cross-cultural influences of Chinese/Western musical traditions. This CD includes compositions by Western composers Justin Merritt, Matthias Mueller, Patrick Lenz (Baylor 2017 BM graduate), Edward Taylor (Baylor Theory Faculty), Paul Sánchez (former Baylor piano faculty member), and Scott Steele.



Brian A. Schmidt, Associate Professor of Choral Music, has been nominated for Grammy Awards in three areas (Best Choral Performance, Best Surround Sound, and Best Engineered) for his work conducting the South Dakota Chorale in Marcel Tyberg's *Masses*.



Our Alumni

Mason Ingram (BM Percussion, 2007) continues to maintain an incredibly active career as a highly sought-after drummer in New York City. To date he has made the full rounds on all of the major late night shows, including the "Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon," the "Late Show with Stephen Colbert," "Late Night with Seth Meyers," and the "Late Late Show with James Cordon" (twice). He has also racked up an impressive list of major festival appearances, including Austin City Limits, Lollapalooza, Osheaga, Bumbershoot, Music Midtown Atlanta, Voodoo, and Live On The Green Nashville. His Broadway appearances include The Lion King, The Waitress, Finding Neverland, and Rent-Off Broadway. Mason has recorded and performed with Angus and Julia Stone, Bibi Bourelly, Paul Baloche, Young Oceans, the Lone Bellow, and the Discovery Channel. He studied percussion at Baylor with Todd Meehan.

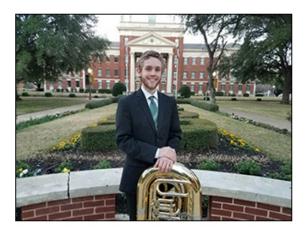


Maureen Murchie (BA University Scholar, 2001; MM Violin, 2003) collaborated with soloist and historian Paul Miller to present the world premiere of a concerto for two violas d'amore by Franz Götz (1755–1815) with the ensemble Grand Harmonie. The concert took place at Saint Peter's Episcopal Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The program was repeated at The Church of St. Ignatius of Antioch in New York City. In addition to her work with Grand Harmonie, recent performing engagements include the Handel and Haydn Society, Trinity Baroque Orchestra, NOVUS, El Mundo, Mark Morris Dance Company, guest principal viola with Houston's Mercury Ensemble, education outreach concerts with Filigree Baroque, and the American Classical Orchestra. Upcoming projects include concertmaster/soloist at Boulder Bach Festival and solo work on the viola d'amore with Bach Society Houston and Bethlehem Bach Festival. Ms. Murchie studied violin at Baylor with

Professor Bruce Berg.



Travis Olson (BME Tuba, 2016) was hired as assistant band director in the Grandview, Texas, Independent School District. During the spring of 2016, he served in a similar role in the Lago Vista, Texas, ISD. Travis studied tuba at Baylor with Kent Eshelman.



Dylan Reese (BM Church Music, 2014; MDV Theology, 2017) finished his master's degree at Truett Seminary in August and was hired as Associate Pastor at First Baptist Church of Mabank, Texas.



Adrienne Steely (BM Cello, 2014; MM Composition, 2016), a student of Gary Hardie and Scott McAllister, had her piece *Green311.13 for cello, electronics, and lights* selected for performance on the Boston New Music Initiative's 2017-2018 season. The piece will be performed in early April 2018.

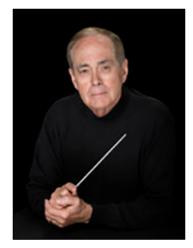


We are interested in hearing from our alumni! To submit items for inclusion in the E-Newsletter, please email Dean Gary Mortenson (gary_mortenson@baylor.edu) and include your name, degree(s), year of graduation, major professor, JPEG portrait, and news item.

Our Future

Band Music Education Scholarship Honoring Richard Floyd

It is with great pleasure that the Baylor School of Music announces the establishment of a new award in Music Education. This award honors the contributions of Texas Music Education icon, UIL Music Director Emeritus, and former Director of Bands at Baylor University, Richard Floyd (pictured below). This new award will be given to deserving students in Band Music Education.



Please join us in honoring the legacy of this outstanding leader and former Baylor faculty member by making a donation to this scholarship fund. Online donations can be made at: www.baylor.edu/give. Gifts in honor of Richard Floyd should be made by searching for the "Music Education Excellence Fund," designating your gift in honor of Richard Floyd. Donations can also be made by mailing a check in care of Clayton Ellis to:

Baylor University Attn: Clayton Ellis, Director of Development One Bear Place #97026 Waco, Texas 76798

"I will remain eternally grateful for the priceless period of my professional career that I proudly served as Director of Bands at Baylor University and I am deeply humbled by the establishment of the Richard Floyd Award in Band Music Education. If you share my affection for all that Baylor University has meant to each of us, I urge you to make a contribution to the endowment that will underwrite this initiative. By doing so, you too will be a part of this enduring legacy."

– Dr. Richard Floyd, October 2017

Board of Advocates

On December 1, 2017 the School of Music will host the fall 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 Cory and Amy Anderson, Babs Baugh, Barbara Elliott, 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

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: https://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) 710-3991.



Copyright © <u>Baylor® University</u>. All rights reserved. <u>Legal Disclosures</u>. Baylor University Waco, Texas 76798 1-800-229-5678

Click here to unsubscribe from this email.

%end%