

# Music Notes

Delta State University  
Department of Music  
Fall 2008  
Volume 6, Issue 1

## Greetings:

When a new academic year begins, it is truly a pleasure to welcome new and returning students and faculty back to campus. This year was no exception. I also welcome you, our dedicated music alumni, to the Fall edition of the Music Department Newsletter. As school began, it occurred to me that it would be this point in time that the 2007-2008 graduates would fully realize they were no longer students, likely for the first time in their life. Whether you were a music major or music maker in one of the many performing organizations, we welcome you as a new alumnus. You are joining a community of friends, colleagues and fellow musicians that share a love of music and a unique common experience at Delta State. We look forward to your continued association with the Department of Music and your support of music and the arts.

As you read through this edition of the newsletter, you will learn of recent activities and upcoming events in the department that are of interest. There are a couple of items I would like to share with you.

Over the years, we have been fortunate to have a consistently strong and dedicated music faculty. While faculty excellence is constant, it does not mean that the membership of the faculty is static. This year is no exception.

In June, Dr. Donna Banks, Professor of Piano, announced she had accepted a position at Holmes County

Community College. Dr. Banks departs after nearly 19 years at Delta State University. We extend our many thanks to Donna for her dedication and service to her students and the department. Congratulations and best wishes to Donna and her family.

I am pleased to introduce and welcome two new faculty members to the department. Dr. Teri Herron, Assistant Professor of Voice, and Dr. Jung Won Shin, Assistant Professor of Piano. Dr. Herron comes to us from Indiana University, where she earned her Doctor of Music. She also taught at Simpson College, Indianola, IA. Dr. Shin held a faculty position at Lane College, Jackson, TN, prior to joining our faculty. You can learn more about each of them later in this newsletter. You may also wish to visit their faculty pages on the Music Department web site.

We hope to hear from you from time to time. Drop us a line or give us a call and let us know what you are doing. Hope to see you soon!

Best always,  
Paul Hankins, Chair

## Music Department Team Contributes Funds to the 2008 Relay for Life

A team of faculty and students from the DSU Music Department collected over \$1500 to contribute to the Bolivar County Relay for Life event held each April behind the DSU football stadium, supporting the American Cancer Society. Team captains Dr. Mark Butler and Dr. Karen Fosheim spearheaded the efforts encouraging students to participate as well by organizing their own ways of raising funds. The newly-formed African drumming and dance ensemble directed by Fosheim provided entertainment prior to the Opening Ceremony. Several music professors and students set up a tent at the Relay event and participated in the four-hour walk (and had a great time while supporting the cause). The team hopes to involve more faculty and students this year and raise even more funds for the ACS. If you'd like to support the DSU Music Department team financially or by participating, look for information in the spring newsletter or call Dr. Mark Butler at 662-846-4619.



Photos provided by Mary Beth Johnson

## Faculty News

**Dr. Larry Bradford**, DSU Assistant Band Director and Yamaha Performing Artist, was the guest clinician for the Sounds of Summer camp held at Hinds Community College in June 2008. This camp sponsored by the Yamaha Corporation of America and Mississippi Music, hosted 45 of Mississippi's best percussionists in a 2-day camp designed to improve their rudimental approach to drumming. In addition, Dr. Bradford was featured as guest soloist with the Mississippi Winds at the conclusion of the camp.

**Dr. Mark Butler**, Professor of Music, received a service award for his 20 years of teaching at DSU this spring at a ceremony held on campus. In April, he attended the Accreditation, Accountability, and Quality professional development conference sponsored by the National Council for Teacher Accreditation (NCATE) in Arlington, VA. His trip was supported by the College of Education and the DSU foundation. Dr. Butler also served as the chair of the University Tenure and Promotion Committee for the 2007-2008 year. He completed a six-year appointment as the Arts and Sciences representative on the DSU Teacher Education Council.

In July 2008, Butler served on the search committee for the piano and music theory position at DSU, continued to hold the positions of registrar and treasurer for the Mississippi Conference on Church Music and Liturgy, a national Episcopal church music workshop held annually in Canton, MS, and attended the Sewanee Church Music Conference in Monteagle and Sewanee, TN

As the music education program coordinator, Dr. Butler has been working on NCATE accreditation and assessment procedures for the BME program over the past three years. As of the 2008 spring semester, the BME degree met all program standards set by NCATE and those for the DSU teacher education unit as a whole.

**Dr. Andrea Cheeseman**, Associate Professor of Woodwinds, was granted tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor in the spring of 2008. She and **Dr. Shelley Collins** performed at the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire and gave masterclasses and lectures.

**Dr. Teri Herron**, Assistant Professor of Voice, presented a poster session at the *Music, Language & the Mind* conference held at Tufts University in Medford, MA in July of this year. Her presentation centered on her research on the *Jugendstil* and *Sezzionstil* movements in Germany and Austria at the *fin-de-siècle* and the ways in which elements of those movements influenced and were influenced by music.

**Dr. Douglas Mark**, Assistant Professor of Low Brass, participated in a workshop held by the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education and served as Principal Trombone in the Mississippi Wind Symphony this past summer. The ensemble performed concerts at Mississippi College and Hinds Community College.

**Dr. Richard Waters**, Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities, was a recipient of the 2007-2008 Delta State University Foundation Prize for Excellence in Teaching.

**Dr. John Wojcik**, Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Bands, was selected to attend a workshop held by the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education held at the University of Mississippi campus, July 21-22. The workshop offered ways to incorporate music and art into all subjects studied at PreK-12 levels.

## New Faculty

**Dr. Jung-Won Shin** joined the music faculty as Assistant Professor of Piano at Delta State University in the fall semester of 2008. She teaches applied piano, class piano, and music theory. She has appeared as an active teacher, adjudicator, and solo and collaborative pianist with a large range of repertoire for solo, vocal, and chamber music at recitals and concerts in the U.S. and Korea. She has earned degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Indiana University, and Seoul National University. She has worked as accompanist at the Mannes College of Music in New York and has taught at Lane College in Tennessee.



**Dr. Teri Herron** attended Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa where she sang numerous main stage roles under the baton of Maestro Robert L. Larsen; including the Mother in Menotti's *Amahl & the Night Visitors*, and Lady Billows in Britten's *Albert Herring*. During the summers, she spent time working with and teaching talented high school musicians at the yearly Orpheus Music Festivals held at Simpson. Dr. Herron completed her Masters degree at the University of Houston where she studied voice with W. Stephen Smith. While there, she sang the roles of La Ciesca in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and the New Prioress in Poulenc's *Les Dialogues des Carmélites*, among others. She was an Apprentice Artist with the Des Moines Metro Opera for two seasons, in 1997 covering the role of Lady Billows in Britten's *Albert Herring*, and 1998 performing the role of Mrs. Bassett in Hoiby's *Summer & Smoke*. Dr. Herron has presented papers at numerous conferences and symposia, including this past January's *New Voice Educator's Symposium* held at Indiana University in Bloomington and July's *Music Language & the Mind* held at Tufts University in Medford, MA. Dr. Herron completed her doctorate in voice at Indiana University in Bloomington in 2007.

### Chorale Sings at Washington National Cathedral

Members of the DSU Chorale had a memorable trip to Washington, DC during spring break. The night before our departure, Cleveland experienced a rare snowfall, which made our trip to the Memphis airport the following morning quite an adventure! After waiting in very long lines at the airport, everyone finally made it onto the airplane... although most of our luggage did not. (It finally arrived at our hotel in DC shortly after midnight.)

The highlight of the trip was our invitation to sing at Washington National Cathedral on Sunday, March 9. The choir performed a 25-minute prelude prior to the afternoon Evensong service. Other notable moments from our four-day trip included a performance by the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, as well as visits to the many of the sites that DC has to offer, including Arlington National Cemetery, the Holocaust Memorial Museum, Lincoln Memorial, National Archives, U.S. Capitol, and the Washington Monument. Our sincere thanks goes out to everyone who helped make this trip possible.

### Choirs Release Fourth CD Recording

The choral program recently released their fourth compact disc – "Comfort and Joy: Holiday Carols from Delta State University, Volume 2." This collection of holiday carols features performances by all three DSU choirs from the 2006 and 2007 holiday concerts, including music by J. S. Bach, Franz Biebl, Herbert Howells, John Rutter, and David Willcocks. The cost of each CD is \$15 plus shipping; cash and checks are accepted. Proceeds from the sale of these recordings benefit the choral program at DSU. Copies are available at all DSU choir concerts, or may be ordered from the Department of Music website.

### Holiday Choir Concert

Join all three DSU choirs for the Holiday Choir Concert on Saturday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Cleveland. Students from DSU's Chamber Singers, Chorale, and Delta Singers will present contemporary and traditional carols. Don't miss this annual highlight of the season!

**The Delta State Opera**, under the direction of Dr. Mary Lenn Buchanan, presented an afternoon of opera scenes March 6, 2008 in the Bologna Performing Arts Center Recital Hall. Included in the concert were scenes from *Carmen*, *The Bartered Bride*, *Manon*, *The Old Maid and the Thief*, and *Dido and Aeneas*.

The 2008-09 academic year has the possibilities of some exhilarating experiences for DSU Opera. The enrollment is the largest in twenty years, and the talent is superior. Please watch your mailings for performance announcements and make your plans to attend every concert.

*MusicNotes* is edited by Andrea Cheeseman. Send all alumni and change of address information to [acheesmn@deltastate.edu](mailto:acheesmn@deltastate.edu) or A. Cheeseman; P.O. Box 3256; DSU; Cleveland, MS; 38733



*Chorale on steps of Washington National Cathedral*

### Concert Opportunities

#### ***Rare Opportunity to Hear Songs from Sweden***

By Dr. Kumiko Shimizu

Presenting Scandinavian songs sung in the original language has been on my "wish list". After having searched for a professional vocalist who speaks any Nordic language in the United States, it was a delightful surprise to encounter a website describing a singer who had been awarded a Fulbright scholarship to conduct extensive research on Swedish songs in Stockholm.

On Thursday, January 15, 2009, this singer, Dr. Kathleen Roland (soprano) will join me in concert at 7:30 in the Recital Hall of the BPAC. I sincerely hope that you will be able to attend the recital and enjoy the beautiful Swedish songs that have not been heard enough in this country.

#### **World War I Commemoration**

Several departments across campus have spent the last year planning a week-long commemoration of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conclusion of the First World War. On Monday, November 3, DSU faculty members Andrea Cheeseman (clarinet), Anne-Gaëlle Ravetto (violin) and Kumiko Shimizu (piano) will be joined by cellist Emily Baker on a performance of Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time*.

On the first full weekend of November, the Art Department will open a new exhibit with themes that focus on the conflict. The commemoration will conclude with a Concert of Remembrance on Tuesday, November 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bologna Performing Arts Center, featuring poetry readings, images and video for the era, as well as solo, brass, and choral performances. For more information about these events, contact Dr. Adam Lynde in the History Department: [alynde@deltastate.edu](mailto:alynde@deltastate.edu) or 662-846-4177.

## Our Alumni Report...

**Ricky Brooks (BME 77, MME 78)** and **Sheila Ainsworth Brooks (BME 78, MME 79)** are both actively involved in the music world. Ricky is Director of Bands at the University of Central Arkansas and recently performed at Carnegie Hall, the United States Capital and in Austria. At UCA, he has worked with composers such as Karel Husa, Michael Daugherty and W. Francis McBeth. Sheila is a band director at Bob Courtway Middle School and an active concert/marching band judge and clinician in Arkansas. She is a member of the Executive Board of the Arkansas School Band and Orchestra Association.

**Clay Fuller (BME 1999, MMED 2002)** and his family are now living in Cleveland. Clay is beginning his first year as Director of Bands at Cleveland High School.

**Tim Goodson (BME 2007)** and **Desi Melancon Goodson (BME 2007)** have recently purchased a home in Vicksburg, MS. Tim is directing the choir at Vicksburg Junior High, and Desi is teaching K-3 music at Sherman Avenue School.

**Lynn Holliman (BME 2005)** is working on her third year as the Music Director at Riverside Schools in Avon, MS where she teaches the Riverside High School Chorus and 1st - 6th Elementary Music. She is also the head director for the annual Junior/Senior Musical and is founding a Junior High Chorus in the 2008-2009 school year. Since she has been at Riverside she has consistently had students be a part of the DSU Honor Choir.

**Jenna Jackson (BME 2006)** is currently pursuing a Master of Music Education degree at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA. She also teaches voice lessons through the LSU Music Academy, a preparatory school for future LSU music students. LSU football has also become a new favorite of Jenna's.

**Robert Jenson (BME 2000)** is currently teaching for the Fulton County Schools in Atlanta, GA. He directs a choir and also teaches General Music. In September, his choir will sing in the Rotunda of the Georgia Capital for the Governor of Georgia. Robert has also been singing with the Dekalb Choral Guild, the Atlanta Festival Singers and the St Mark's Chancel Choir.

**Timothy Lee (BA 2007)** is currently living in Memphis, TN and pursuing a Master of Music Education degree at the University of Memphis. He is working full-time as assistant manager of Aldo Shoes and teaching private voice lessons to children. Tim is enjoying his master's work, but he still misses DSU and especially DSU Opera.

**Rachel Rosensweig Maldonado (BA 1997)** is living in Indianapolis, IN. She is officially ABD in the pursuit of her PhD in Curriculum and Instruction. This school year, she is teaching at Gambold Middle School and is enjoying the move to a new school and the opportunity to share her views on instruction with her colleagues. Her two children continue to be a great source of fun for her hectic life.

**Megan Morgan (BME 2008)** has accepted a position as Director of Choirs at Desoto Central High School in Southaven, MS. She has already hit to ground running and planning lots of choral experiences.

**Abe Morris (BM 2000)** has managed car dealerships for almost ten years. He is responsible for training managers and the finances. He is the proud father of 17-month-old Katherine Elizabeth. Playing trumpet is still one of his passions, and he has fond memories of spending time in the practice rooms in Zeigel and being with all of his friends.

**S. Michael Shuman (BM Piano and Voice 2004)** is currently in Fayetteville, AR, where he has lived for the past two years after completing his Masters of Music in Piano from the University of Nebraska at Omaha (2006). He is the Director of Traditional Music at Heritage United Methodist Church in Van Buren, AR. He is also a collaborative pianist for the northwest Arkansas area including the Department of Music at the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville). Michael collaborates with several university students and ensembles as well as several other area musicians in a variety of venues.

**Robin Passer Washington (BM 2006)** is married to Chad Washington, a Cleveland native, and also a DSU graduate. Robin teaches piano lessons from her home and is the Director of Music at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Cleveland, MS. While Chad is touring the country with the band Starecase 27, Robin takes care of their one-year cat named Goober. Since she lives near the DSU campus, Robin is still involved with DSU Chorale and vocal coaching. Robin is planning a voice recital within the next few months.

## Band Area

The DSU Bands are gearing up for another busy year of performances! Activity began this summer with the reestablishment of the Cleveland Summer Concert Band, a group that was on hiatus for at least a decade. Organized by Cleveland resident and saxophonist Rogers Varner and DSU Band Director Dr. John Wojcik, the band rehearsed on a Wednesday evening during June. A performance was held on July 2, 2008 in Ewing Hall's Jacob Conference Center with an ice cream social adding to the festivities.

This semester, DSU Marching Pride was invited to march in a parade held on September 13 in honor of the opening of the new BB King museum in Indianola, MS. The Wind Ensemble was invited to be the featured university band at the Mississippi Bandmaster's Clinic held in Tupelo, MS and will perform on December 12, 2008.

## Scholarship Auditions:

Know anyone who is interested in joining the DSU Band or Choir? Let them know they can audition for a music scholarship. Audition dates are below. Additional dates can be set up by appointment. Contact Dr. John Wojcik (662-846-4629) or Dr. Richard Waters (662-846-4115) for more information.

Friday, February 27, 2009; 10:00 am

Friday, March 27, 2009; 10:00 am

Friday, April 17, 2009; 10:00 am (instrumental only)

Friday, April 24, 2009; 10:00 am

For information on Delta State University's Music Department and its offerings, please visit our website:

<http://music.deltastate.edu>

## Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Pilots Delta Heritage Music Education Program at DSU

Like much of the country, music education has become increasingly inaccessible to rural youths in Mississippi public schools, but a few Delta State music students are making a difference at one rural Delta school. In order to preserve the Delta's musical heritage, the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz (TMIJ) and the Delta State University Department of Music have partnered to provide personalized instrumental instruction at Ruleville Central High School for a wide range of middle and high school music students.

The Delta Heritage Program began after a visit from the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz to the Mississippi Delta in 2007, including a standing-room-only concert at Delta State University. During their visit, the TMIJ performers and their friends asked how they could make a difference in the Delta. Dr. Shelley Collins, Assistant Professor of Music, and Don Allan Mitchell, Assistant Professor of English, co-wrote a grant proposal to the Institute. They asked for funds to pay DSU music majors to teach private and group lessons at Ruleville High School. The Monk Institute responded by funding a pilot program which ran from January to April 2008. The program was such a success that it will continue for the 2008-2009 academic year.

"As a result of this program, DSU music education students gained hands-on experience in the music classroom," stated Collins, the program coordinator. "Mr. Pickens, the Ruleville band director, reported that his program retention was much higher than in previous years." The Ruleville students improved at a faster rate and benefited from one-on-one or small group instruction with their college mentors.

The five music majors chosen for the pilot program were selected based on aptitude, high GPAs, strong instrumental proficiency, attitude, and faculty recommendations. Students in the pilot program included Bradley Ballard, JJ Hatfield, Steven Hugley, Travis Metcalf, and Johnathan Williams.

The TMIJ returned for a second performance at Delta State in 2008, where they were the guests of the DSU Jazz Ensemble, directed by Dr. Paul Hankins. An enthusiastic crowd of almost 500 students and community members enjoyed performances by both ensembles.

## Percussion Area

The DSU percussion studio would like to welcome the following new percussion majors: Joanna Sabine (Columbia), Ashley Bobo (South Panola), Brian Lindsay (Columbus), and Wesley Patrick (Hernando). They are joined in the studio by Brian Schilling, Ashley Burton, Mandi King, Amber Horton, Greg Cobb, and Derrick Brown. In addition, the following students are new to the marching band and small ensembles: Daniel Payne (Hernando), Michael Mattox (Madison), Jeremy Parker (Cleveland), Erin Loflin (Warren Central), Lana Johnson (Tupelo) and Bailey Fletcher (Cleveland).

## New Music Ensemble

This fall a new ensemble was formed: The New Music Ensemble. Under the direction of Dr. Mark Snyder, Assistant Professor of Music Production & Technology, and Dr. Andrea Cheeseman, Associate Professor of Music, this 15-member ensemble will perform an eclectic assortment of music, ranging from post-rock to post-modern and performances are planned in a variety of venues, including the Electro-acoustic Juke Joint Festival on November 13, 2008, and a performance of the Film Scoring Class' score to *Nosferatu* on October 4, 2008 in the BPAC D&PL Theatre. Look for more information on this group's activity in the next newsletter.



Members of the 2008-2009 DSU Steel Band (L to R): Phillip Carter, Lana Johnson, Amber Horton, Derrick Brown, Joanna Sabine, Lemorris Hunt, Jessica Flowers, Mandi King, Greg Cobb, Julie Bowen, Daniel Payne, Ashley Burton, Brian Lindsay, and Jennifer Coggins

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<b>Guest Artist:</b> Eric Mandat, clarinet	Sept. 9	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>Guest Artist:</b> Richard Johnson, jazz pianist	Sept. 11	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>DSU Marching Band:</b> BB King Museum – Parade	Sept. 13	TBA	Indianola, MS
<b>DSU Marching Band:</b> half-time performance	Sept. 13	6:00 pm	Travis Parker Field
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> Andrea Cheeseman, clarinet	Sept. 22	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>DSU Marching Band:</b> half-time performance	Sept. 27	3:00 pm	Travis Parker Field
<b>DSU Marching Band:</b> half-time performance	Oct. 11	3:00 pm	Travis Parker Field
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> Christopher Meerdink, tenor; Karen Fosheim, piano	Oct. 13	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>DSU Marching Band:</b> half-time performance	Oct. 16	7:00 pm	Travis Parker Field
<b>Chorale:</b> Desoto County Vocal Seminar	Oct. 28	7:00 pm	Hernando HS
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> Douglas Mark, trombone; Karen Fosheim, piano	Oct. 28	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>Chamber Singers:</b> Veteran’s Atrium Ceremony	Nov. 1	10:00 am	Jobe Hall
<b>DSU Marching Band:</b> half-time performance	Nov. 1	3:00 pm	Travis Parker Field
<b>Faculty Ensemble Recital:</b> Messiaen’s Quartet for the End of Time	Nov. 3	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>DSU Band Showcase:</b> Wind Ensemble & Marching Band	Nov. 4	7:30 pm	D&PL
<b>Senior Recital:</b> Daniel Kelley, piano	Nov. 6	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
<b>Concert of Remembrance:</b> WWI Commemoration Concert	Nov. 11	7:30 pm	D&PL
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> Jung-Won Shin, piano	Nov. 12	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>Electro Acoustic Juke Joint Festival</b>	Nov 13-15		
<b>Jazz Ensemble</b>	Nov. 17	7:30 pm	D&PL
<b>Low Brass Ensemble</b>	Nov. 18	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>Senior Recitals:</b> James Koestler, euphonium, Coriss Watson, piano Benjamin Tuberville, alto saxophone	Nov. 20	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
<b>Percussion and Steel Band</b>	Nov. 20	7:30 pm	D&PL
<b>Senior Recitals:</b> Benjamin Holley, baritone, Pete J. Raif III, tenor	Dec. 4	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
<b>DSU Marching Band:</b> Cleveland Christmas Parade	Dec. 4	TBA	Downtown Cleveland
<b>DSU Opera</b>	Dec. 4	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>DSU Bands:</b> Roy Martin Delta Band Festival	Dec. 5	TBA	Greenwood, MS
<b>Holiday Choir Concert:</b> Chamber Singers, Chorale, Delta Singers	Dec. 6	7:30 pm	1st United Methodist Church, Cleveland
<b>DSU Wind Ensemble:</b> Mississippi Bandmaster’s Clinic	Dec. 12	TBA	Tupelo, MS
<b>Guest Artist:</b> Kathleen Roland, soprano	Jan. 15	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>DSU Honor Band Clinic:</b> Bill Clark, guest clinician	Jan. 29-31		
<b>MS All-State Community College Band Clinic</b>	Jan. 29-31		
<b>Chamber Concert:</b> Andrea Cheeseman, clarinet; Kumiko Shimizu, piano Susan Ruggiero-Mezzadri, soprano; Danilo Mezzadri, flute	Feb. 3	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
<b>DSU Honor Choir</b>	Feb. 13-15		

The Recital Hall and the Delta and Pine Land (D&PL) Theatre are in the Bologna Performing Arts Center at the DSU Campus.  
Programs are subject to change. To verify, please call 662-846-4615.



Department of Music  
P. O. Box 3256  
Cleveland, MS 38733

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