Each new year brings an active spring semester to the Music Department at DSU. Almost immediately we have the privilege of hosting 120-150 high school instrumentalists through our annual Honor Band. This year 140 students played beautifully under the direction of guest conductor, Dr. Quincy Hilliard, from UL-Lafayette. As Dr. Hilliard is a native of Starkville, MS, it was nice to have someone with so many accomplishments return to his home state to work with these outstanding band members.

We offer two events in February that bring Mississippi students to the department. The Art of the Piano is a fairly new venture organized by the piano faculty that features guest clinicians, guest recitalists, master classes for all ages, student recitals and workshops for private piano teachers. The number of participants continues to grow each year.

The privilege of hosting excellent high school musicians is ours again with the DSU Honor Choir that comes on the heels of the piano weekend. Dr. Alan Raines of Baylor University is the guest conductor this year. The talented students selected by audition for this choir always sing with such great skill and expression, giving an outstanding performance.

Having the high school ensemble directors and teachers on campus, many of whom are DSU alumni, is also a component of these events. Although there may be just a few of us faculty that a good many know directly, our newer (younger) faculty go out of their way to make these directors feel right at home. Mississippi is fortunate to have these high school ensemble directors who are so committed and passionate about teaching music. Their students represent them well and they deserve lots of support from their communities.

Our ensembles will also be out and about in the state and region in our ongoing efforts to attract more music majors and ensemble members. This year, the music faculty has put a lot of thought and effort into expanding our recruiting efforts and updating our scholarship audition dates to be day-long Music Days. We'll provide exposure to our offerings and information about financial aid and admissions for prospective students and their parents throughout the day.

In April, we'll have our Honors Recital, induct new members into the Pi Kappa Lambda honor society, host a trombone festival, and announce our annual awards for outstanding alumni, supporters and benefactors.

It is important to note that these efforts often have to be “self-supporting” financially. Gifts made to our foundation accounts help to make it possible for these exciting activities to continue, as well as funding several scholarships, such as the Jeff Ross Capwell scholarship for outstanding instrumental music education majors. If you feel inspired to be a part of these efforts, please consider making a donation to our department by contacting our office. You also can simply send your gift to the music office and we’ll make the proper arrangements with the foundation. You can give by credit card at the DSU web site, www.deltastate.edu. There's an icon of an open hand on every web page that connects you to the DSU Foundation. Make sure to “comment” that your gift is directed to music department account(s). All gifts are greatly appreciated.

We wish each of you a very happy and prosperous 2012. We welcome your visits and feedback.

Dr. Mark Butler, Interim Chair and Professor of Music
Faculty News

Dr. Mark Butler, Professor of Music and Interim Chair, is serving as a member of the university General Education committee which reviews the required courses common to all undergraduate degrees. Butler coordinates the music education program and served on an ad hoc committee in the College of Education charged with establishing the structure for the new Graduate Education Program Council. He provided piano accompaniment for the Veterans Program during Homecoming, played organ on the Christmas choral concert, and worked with the horn section of the DSU Honor Band.

Dr. Teri Herron, Assistant Professor of Music, presented a Faculty Recital of Samuel Barber’s Hermit Songs in collaboration with Dr. Jung-Won Shin on January 17th, 2012 in the Recital Hall on the DSU campus. Dr. Herron presented her talk entitled “Nutrition, Fitness, and Stress Management Strategies for the Active Musician” as part of the DSU Music Department’s 2-part series The “Well”-Rounded Musician: “Physical and Mental Health and Well-Being”, on January 19th, 2012. Profs. Joshua Armstrong, Shelley Collins, Karen Fosheim and Bret Pimentel joined her in presenting a Faculty Panel Discussion on “Physical Conditioning, Injury Prevention, Vocal Hygiene, Emotional Balance, Substance/Technology Abuse, and Lifestyle” as part of the DSU Music Department’s 2-part series The “Well”-Rounded Musician, on January 26th, 2012.

Dr. Herron will perform in a series of concerts and present her paper “Searching for the ‘Feminine’ Voice in the Art Song Canon” at the Singers Consortia Art Song Festival at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, TX in March, 2012.

Dr. Douglas Mark, Assistant Professor of Low Brass, recently collaborated with Dr. Jung-Won Shin and Ms. Anne-Gaëlle Ravetto in presenting guest artist recitals and masterclasses at the University of Memphis in Memphis, TN and Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, MS. Upcoming recital performances include Rhodes College in Memphis, TN and Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, AR.

Dr. Mark has been invited to join the audio-visual review board for the International Trombone Association. In March, he will serve as guest artist at the 2012 Eastern Trombone Workshop, an international trombone festival in Washington D.C. hosted by the United States Army Band. In April, he will serve as competition judge at the 2012 Fort Worth Trombone Summit at Texas Christian University. Dr. Mark continues to serve as Brass Area Chair for the Mississippi Music Teachers Association.

Mr. Joe Moore, Instructor of Music and Director of Bands, will be the conductor for the first band at the East Central Community College Band Clinic in Decatur, Mississippi. Mr. Moore will also present a clinic on sight-reading preparation to the members of the Northeast Mississippi Band Directors Association in February. In April, Mr. Moore will serve as an adjudicator for the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools State Concert Festival in Jackson, Mississippi.

Dr. Chad R. Payton, Assistant Professor of Music, was a featured soloist in Handel’s Messiah with the University of Missouri’s Choral Union and University Philharmonic on the University Concert Series in November. While in Columbia for the performance, he taught voice lessons at the University of Missouri and at Columbia Independent School. This semester Dr. Payton will be presenting a discussion, “Personal Experiences of Gender Bending in the Countertenor Repertoire,” for the Gender Studies Group at Delta State University in February and is hosting the Opera Lecture Series throughout the semester in the Bologna Performing Arts Center Recital Hall. Dr. Payton will lecture on and present four operas for public viewing during the series.

He is excited to bring guest artist Dr. Christopher Nichols, instructor at Concordia University and clarinetist, to Delta State University in March. He holds degrees from the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, and the Boston Conservatory. While here, Dr. Nichols will present a masterclass for DSU music students and join Drs. Collins, Herron, Payton, and Shimizu on Dr. Payton’s March 19th faculty recital, Collaborations, which features a variety of chamber music.

Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, Associate Professor of Music, is serving on the newly created National Opera Association Pianists and Conductors Committee. She has been invited to play for the Mississippi American Choral Directors Association All-State Women’s Honor Choir at the ACDA State Convention in March. Dr. Shimizu is organizing the third annual departmental Chamber Ensembles Competition scheduled on March 1, 2012.

Dr. Jung-Won Shin, Assistant Professor of Music, presented a piano duo recital with pianist Dr. Jacob Clark and a master class for piano students at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC, in November 2011. Her other performances include collaborative recitals with trombonist Dr. Douglas Mark at the University of Memphis in Memphis, TN, and Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, MS, in October 2011, and a piano duo recital with Dr. Kumiko Shimizu at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, MS, in September 2011. She was also featured at a collaborative recital with flutist John Lane at the Beethoven Club in Memphis, TN, in November 2011.
DSU WIND ENSEMBLE COMMEMORATES 9/11

On September 11, 2011, the Delta State University Wind Ensemble presented a remembrance concert to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy. The music paid tribute to those affected by the tragedy as well as honoring those serving in our Armed Forces (both past and present) and emergency and medical personnel who serve our local communities on a daily basis. The BPAC was filled with a near-capacity crowd and speakers included DSU President Dr. John Hilpert, as well as elected officials from the City of Cleveland and Bolivar County.

The Wind Ensemble concluded the Fall semester with a concert of traditional and contemporary works for wind band, including the “Second Suite in F for Military Band” by Gustav Holst – a cornerstone of the band repertoire on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

DSU PRIDE OF THE DELTA MARCHING BAND

The Pride of the Delta provided spirit at home games and pep rallies in addition to hosting the Annual Band Day. This year, approximately eighty participants, representing high school and community college students along with alumni, joined the band in providing entertainment at halftime as well as support for the team in the stands.

DSU HIGH SCHOOL HONOR BAND 2012

A record number of 220 students from throughout Mississippi and from as far away as Florida auditioned to participate in the 2012 Honor Band. After selections were made, 140 high school students participated in a three-day event hosted on campus and conducted by clinician Dr. Quincy Hilliard.

DSU Music Scholarship Auditions:

Know anyone who is interested in joining the DSU Band or Choir, or majoring in music? Let them know they can audition for a music scholarship during our DSU Music Days:

- Friday, February 17, 2012
- Thursday, March 8, 2012
- Friday, April 13, 2012
(9 am – 4 pm)

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

http://music.deltastate.edu

DSU JAZZ ENSEMBLE TO PERFORM FOURTH ANNUAL BIG BAND BASH

The DSU Jazz Ensemble will present its fourth annual Big Band Bash on Saturday, March 3, 7:00 pm at the Warehouse on North Sharp Street in Cleveland. The Big Band Bash is a night of great music, dancing, food, and fun, and a crucial fundraiser for DSU’s jazz program.

Mark your calendars now, and contact Jazz Ensemble director Dr. Bret Pimentel (bpimentel@deltastate.edu or 662 846-4608) for ticket information.

DO YOU LOVE OPERA? (WE DO!)

Opera Lecture Series

Dr. Chad R. Payton will host the Opera Lecture Series throughout the spring semester in the Bologna Performing Arts Center Recital Hall. The series will consist of brief lectures on four operas, as well as a public viewing of each of these masterworks. Admission is free, with any donations offered in support of the DSU Opera Theatre program gladly accepted. Lectures will begin at 6:00 pm and performances will be shown in their entirety.

Productions include:

- Claudio Monteverdi’s L’incoronazione di Poppea (Jan. 23)
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s Die Zauberflöte (February 20)
- Georges Bizet’s Carmen (March 20)
- George Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess (April 9)

Music Notes is edited by Dr. Douglas Mark. Send all alumni and change of address information to dmark@deltastate.edu or Dr. Mark; P.O. Box 3256; DSU; Cleveland, MS; 38733
Our Alumni Report...

Erik Johnson (BME, 2001) writes that, upon graduation, he taught for a year at Clinton High School, Clinton, MS, and 3 years at Ripley High School in Ripley, MS. During his last two years at Ripley, he served as the director of bands. In 2005, he resigned his position to go back to school at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace in 2006 and was hired by the Federal Aviation Administration in Longmont, Colorado as an air traffic controller. After serving as a regional air traffic controller for over 4 years, he plans to move back to Mississippi in March 2012 and work at the Memphis regional air traffic control facility. He and his wife Laurie (DSU BFA, 2001) have been married for 10 years.

Amy Wooton Mallette (MME 1990) retired from the Cleveland School District on May 25, 2011, after 29 years in music education. She writes that she really enjoyed the time she spent with CSD and the close working relationship she had with the faculty and students at DSU. As far as she knows, all the student teachers she had from DSU are still actively and successfully fulfilling the musical lives of students across the state. “Thanks for the wonderful memories!”

Do You Have News You’d Like to Share?

We’d like to know what you have been up to!

Please send any news items or address updates to:
dmark@deltastate.edu or Dr. Douglas Mark, P.O. Box 3256, DSU, Cleveland, MS 38733

Calling All Alumni!!!!!

The DSU Department of Music Alumnus/a of the Year Award
NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS!

If you are a graduate of Delta State University, we invite you to make nominations for the DSU Department of Music Alumnus/a of the Year Award. Nominees for the award must be graduates of the DSU Department of Music and display excellence in the field of music. To make a nomination please go the Department of Music website and follow the link to “Alumni News” to view selection criteria and download the nomination form. Forms may be submitted electronically to dmark@deltastate.edu, or by regular mail to: Dr. Douglas Mark, Delta State University, Department of Music, Box 3256, Cleveland, MS 38733. All nomination forms must be received or postmarked by March 15, 2012.

In Memoriam – Professor Nell Elizabeth Wynn

Ms. Nell Elizabeth Wynn, retired Associate Professor Emeritus of Music at Delta State, passed away on December 29, 2011, in Cleveland. Professor Wynn taught piano to a number of music alumni over her 42-year teaching career at Delta State.

Wynn was born in Merigold, Mississippi in 1913. She joined the music faculty of Delta State Teacher’s College after earning a Bachelor of Music degree in 1935 and a Master of Music degree in 1936 from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. She retired from Delta State University in 1978. She continued her music studies during her teaching career at the University of Michigan; McGill University in Montreal, Canada; and the Juilliard School of Music in New York. (Source: Bolivar Commercial, January 2012)

A music scholarship in memory of Ms. Wynn is being established at the DSU Foundation. Selection criteria for the scholarship are in the process of being formulated, but the award will likely be given to outstanding piano majors. If you would like to honor Ms. Wynn with a contribution to this memorial fund, contact the Foundation office at 662-846-4704, or call the Music office at 662-846-4615. Checks earmarked for the Wynn scholarship may be sent directly to the foundation or music office at the university.

“Key-Note” Opportunity

The need to replace pianos in our department is significant, especially in the studio of our collaborative pianist, Dr. Kumiko Shimizu. The current piano in her studio is beyond maintaining and is detrimental to her physically with her intense rehearsal schedule. Some of the pianos in our practice rooms and classrooms no longer stay in tune for very long and have dilapidated action, too. We are investigating some creative options by which to gradually streamline and update our keyboard inventory, but purchase of this grand piano for Dr. Shimizu is a priority.

To help address this situation, could you as a DSU Music alumni or friend of the department make a tax-deductible gift to the Piano Fund through our foundation account? If so, please call us at (662) 846-4615, or just send a check directly to the DSU Department of Music at P.O. Box 3256, Cleveland, MS 38733. You can also give by credit card directly to our account at the DSU Foundation at the DSU web site. If you do give by credit card, be sure to enter “Music Fund/Piano” in the “Comments” box at the bottom of the payment page. As always, your gifts will be greatly appreciated.
MTNA Competition Winners

Several members of the DSU saxophone studio won awards at the state-level Music Teachers National Association competitions in November. Steven Hugley was awarded Honorable Mention in the Young Artists woodwind area competition. The Delta State Saxophone Quartet, consisting of Hugley, Rondell Evans, Austin White, and David Stafford, received Honorable Mention in the Chamber Music area. The saxophonists are students of Dr. Bret Pimentel.

Brian Thomson, a junior trombone performance major, was awarded first place in the Young Artist brass division of the state-level MTNA competition. He went on to represent the State of Mississippi at the MTNA Southern regional competition held at Mississippi College in Clinton, MS this past January. Brian is a student of Dr. Douglas L. Mark.

Students and Faculty Share Cultural Exploration Through Song

Drs. Teri Herron, Jung-Won Shin, and Kumiko Shimizu, in collaboration with the Herron Voice Studio, presented Cultures Through Song: A Korean Journey on February 28th, 2012, in the Recital Hall on the DSU campus. The six-month project brought together DSU Music Department faculty and students in the creation of a workshop series and public concert showcasing Korean language art song repertoire and an exploration of Korean culture through their Western inspired music.

Music Events Calendar continues on page 6
MUSIC EVENTS

Faculty Recital: Violin Masterworks  
March 6  7:30 PM  Recital Hall  
Ms. Anne-Gaëlle Ravetto, violin; Dr. Jung-Won Shin, piano

Percussion Clinic with Johnny Lee Lane  
March 8  7:00 PM – 9:00 PM  Zeigel Hall, 150

Faculty Recital: Collaborations  
March 19  7:30 PM  Recital Hall  
Guest Artist: Dr. Christopher Nichols, clarinet;  
Dr. Shelley Collins, flute; Dr. Teri Herron, soprano;  
Dr. Chad Payton, countertenor; Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, piano

Opera Lecture Series: Carmen by Georges Bizet  
March 20  6:00 PM  Recital Hall

Guest Artist Recital: Jill Felber, flute; Dianne Frazer, piano  
March 25  7:30 PM  Recital Hall

Faculty Artist Recital: Dr. Jung-Won Shin, piano  
March 26  7:30 PM  Recital Hall

Guest Artist Lecture Recital:  
March 27  7:30 PM  Recital Hall  
Shelly Buchanan-Garlotte, mezzo soprano; Dianne Frazer, piano

Opera Lecture Series: Porgy and Bess by George Gershwin  
April 9  6:00 PM  Recital Hall

DSU Community Drumming Concert  
April 10  7:30 PM  Kent Wyatt, Atrium

Woodwind Chamber Ensemble  
April 11  7:30 PM  Recital Hall

Senior Recital: David Stafford, saxophone  
April 12  1:40 PM  Recital Hall

DSU Opera Performance  
April 12  1:40 PM  Recital Hall

Jazz Ensemble  
April 12  7:30 PM  D&PL Theatre

DSU Trombone Day: “Slidin’ in the Delta!”  
April 14  8:00 AM – 6:00 PM  BPAC & Zeigel Hall  
featuring Dr. John Marcellus, trombone

Honors Recital  
April 16  7:30 PM  D&PL Theatre

Percussion Ensemble & Steel Band Concert  
April 17  7:30 PM  D&PL Theatre

Faculty Recital:  
Mr. Josh Armstrong, percussion;  
Dr. Brett Pimentel, clarinet

Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band Concert  
April 19  7:30 PM  D&PL Theatre

Spring Choir Concert  
April 22  3:00 PM  Covenant Presbyterian  
Cleveland, MS

Guest & Faculty Recital: “Musique á Trois”  
April 24  7:30 PM  Recital Hall  
Guest Artist: Joseph Pagán, viola; Anne-Gaëlle Ravetto, violin;  
Karen Fosheim, piano

Brass Chamber Ensembles Concert  
April 26  7:30 PM  Recital Hall

DSU Piano Preparatory Program  
May 6  3:00 PM  Recital Hall

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