

Music Notes

Delta State University
Department of Music
Spring 2006
Volume 3, Issue 2



Welcome to the latest addition of DSU's Music Notes. This spring has been a busy one for the music department. Along with our usual recruiting and audition efforts, we will sponsor over thirty musical events. Once again, we have hosted the Metropolitan Opera auditions, Honor Band with 110 students, and Honor Choir with 125 members early this semester. The Steel Band, under the direction of Larry Bradford, is a popular ensemble with the university and Cleveland communities, having performed many times in their inaugural season.

The faculty continues to be very active in a wide range of activities both inside and outside the classroom. Most recently, Dr. Donna Banks was selected as one of the DSU Foundation Faculty Excellence in Teaching award winners. Faculty members are nominated by students and colleagues and selected by a university committee. Music faculty members are utilizing technology in new ways with the department's Smart Cart and Computer Lab. This year, Dr. Mark Butler initiated an on-line, music education course for the department's education majors.

As some of you may have heard, Lynn Wheeler, our former chair's wife, was involved in a devastating automobile accident on Christmas Day outside of Atlanta. Lynn was paralyzed from the neck down. Currently, she is at the Shepherd Center. Please remember Doug, Lynn and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

We would love to hear from department alumni and friends. Please send us your news and current e-mail addresses. As always, you are welcome to visit and hear one of the many upcoming performances.

See you soon!

David

As some of you may already know, Dr. Keith Pettway will be retiring at the end of this school year. Keith moved to Cleveland from Hattiesburg in 1980 to teach flute at Delta State University. He and his wife, Barbara, have been fixtures at many musical and artistic events over the years. However, they have recently added another interest--dogs. J.J., a white Standard Poodle, is now a big part of their family. In fact, he has been to obedience school (the dog, not Keith), and was recently shown in a local dog show by Keith. But back to Keith--In his 26 years at Delta State, he has taught many students that are presently band directors across the southeast, as well as hundreds of students in his classes. He has made two CDs and are still available upon request. Please join us for Keith's retirement recital with accompanist Lois Hobbs Yu on Sunday, April 23rd at 3 p.m. It certainly will not be the same around here without Keith and his enthusiasm for the flute, but we know that he will continue to be active in the musical life of the Delta.



<http://music.deltastate.edu>

Choral Activities

DSU HOSTS ANNUAL HONOR CHOIR FESTIVAL

Over 120 high school students from across Mississippi gathered on the campus of Delta State for the annual Honor Choir festival on February 10-12. These talented students were selected by audition to participate in the festival by members of the DSU music faculty.

This year's guest conductor was Dr. Eric Nelson, Director of Choral Studies at Emory University in Atlanta. DSU senior music major Rebecca Carter served as the accompanist. The festival concluded with a well-received performance at the Bologna Performing Arts Center. Thanks to all who participated!



Dr. Nelson conducting the 2006 DSU Honor Choir

UPCOMING CHORAL CONCERTS

On Monday, April 17, the Delta Singers and Chamber Singers will present their spring concert at 7:30 p.m. at the Bologna Performing Arts Center. One of the highlights of the evening will be a performance of Bach's glorious 11-movement motet, "Jesu, meine Freude." This concert is free and open to the public.

At the end of April, the DSU Chorale will join forces with the University of Mississippi Concert Singers, the University of Southern Mississippi Chorale, and the USM Symphony Orchestra for "Three By Three: Three Choral Masterworks performed by Three Choirs." The choirs will perform Brahms' "Schicksalslied," Vaughan Williams' "Lord, thou hast been our refuge," and Beethoven's "Choral Fantasy." Please join us at the location nearest you:

Thursday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.
Main Street Baptist Church
11 Main Street Blvd. – Hattiesburg

Saturday, April 29, 8:00 p.m.
Ford Center for the Performing Arts
University of Mississippi – Oxford

Sunday, April 30, 3:00 p.m.
Bologna Performing Arts Center
Delta State University – Cleveland

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OPERA

THE DSU OPERA THEATER was one of the highlights of the evening when it performed on the 2005 DSU Christmas Holiday Extravaganza. The students left the experience with renewed excitement and readiness to continue the joys of performing. April 13, 2006, those same students are planning an afternoon of standard operatic scenes. They will explore the earliest opera in existence when they showcase a part of Claudio Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*. W. A. Mozart, whose writings are a standard in healthy operatic literature, will be represented in a scene from *Le Nozze di Figaro*. To mark the 50th anniversary of the world premiere of *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, the afternoon will conclude with extended scenes from this 20th century work by Douglas Moore. Of course, all the major arias will be presented.

The DSU Department of Music in cooperation with Amici, a local opera support group, hosted the 2006 North MS District Metropolitan Opera auditions in late January. The event brought to our campus Ms. Gayletha Nicholas, the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Opera National Council as one of the judges. Twelve contestants competed for the honor of being sent forward to the Mid-South Regional auditions in Memphis. One contestant, mezzo soprano Daniela Mack, was chosen to compete in the regional auditions.

Faculty News

Dr. Ed Bahr has had reviews published in the *NACWPI Journal* (National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors) and the *International Trombone Association Journal*. The Winter issue of the *NACWPI Journal* includes a positive review of a CD, reissued on Fantasy Records FCD 24762-2, of 1950's Gus Mancuso Baritone Horn jazz recordings, while the January 2006 issue of the *ITA Journal* includes a review of Gordon Cherry's transcription for trombone ensemble of the *Tuba Mirum* from Mozart's *Requiem*, which was performed in the April 2005 DSU chamber ensemble concert.

Dr. Donna Banks is busy this season with piano festivals for pre-college students both as an adjudicator and an organizer. In November, she judged the Mississippi College Duet Festival. On April 1, she will host the Mississippi Music Teachers Association Local Auditions for students from Grenada, Leland, Greenville, and Cleveland. Later in the spring she will judge Mississippi Music Teachers Auditions in Vicksburg, Young Artist Achievement

Award Auditions sponsored by the Nashville Area Music Teachers Association, and the Greater Memphis Music Teachers Association annual competitions.

In addition, Dr. Banks is involved in a project to design workbooks for young students correlated with the revised MMTA syllabus. The workbooks will be created to help teachers prepare students for the yearly auditions. Three piano pedagogy students, Rebecca Carter, Adriel Hill and Justin Kelly are an integral part of this project. Their interest began in the fall piano pedagogy class and has continued. We hope to have workbooks grades 3-7 for the MMTA Executive Board to proofread by the end of the spring semester.

Dr. Mary Lenn Buchanan, Soprano and Dr. Karen Fosheim, Piano will be collaborating in a lecture/performance recital Monday, April 24, 2006. Dr. Buchanan will present a discussion of the works of 20th century jazz composer Peter Saltzman. Buchanan and Dr. Fosheim will also perform Saltzman's song cycle, *The Song of Songs*, based on the writings found in the biblical Song of Solomon.

Dr. Paul Hankins, Professor of Trumpet and Director of the jazz ensembles, recently attended the International Association of Jazz Educators convention in New York City. Along with the many concerts and jam sessions, the convention featured workshops and clinics in jazz education, jazz performance, technology, and music industry.

Dr. Keith Pettway will be retiring from Delta State after 26 years of service at the end of this term. He will be giving a retirement recital on Sunday, April 23 at 3:00 P.M. in the recital hall of the BPAC on the DSU campus. Dr. Pettway will be joined by pianist Lois Hobbs.

Dr. Pettway's composition "Alternative" for flute and piano was nominated for the Mississippi Society of Arts and Letters' composition of the year award. His new piece "Emma's Magnolia" for flute alone was premiered in November.

In January, Dr. Pettway served as judge for the Monroe (Louisiana) Symphony Orchestra League's young artist competition. This summer he will be giving a presentation at the British Flute Society convention in Manchester, England.

DSU Music Students Take High Honors

Delta State University students from the Department of Music scored exceptionally well in the recent Mississippi Music Teachers Association collegiate competitions held at the University of Mississippi. Colleges and universities represented in these competition events were Ole Miss, William Carey, Jones County Junior College, Mississippi College, Millsaps, University of Southern Mississippi, Mississippi State and Belhaven.

Brandi Ward, student of Dr. Donna Banks and daughter of Jerry and Lyle Ward of Drew, and LeMorris Hunt, student of Dr. Karen Fosheim and son of Melissa Hunt of Holly Springs, were named as second and third place winners respectively in the Freshman/Sophomore Mississippi Music Teachers Association Piano Competition. Justin Kelly of Lexington, student of Dr. Donna Banks and son of Dwayne Kelly and Lisa Bethany, was named the third place winner of the Junior/Senior Mississippi Music Teachers Association Piano Competition.

Rebecca Carter, piano student of Dr. Donna Banks and oboe student of Dr. Andrea Cheeseman, won the Music Teachers National Association Young Artist Piano Competition for the state of Mississippi and the Junior/Senior Mississippi Music Teachers Association Woodwind Competition. Carter, the daughter of Andy and Susan Carter of Grenada, placed second in the MMTA Junior/Senior Piano Competition.

Due to her winning the MTNA Young Artist Piano Competition, Carter was invited to compete in the Southern Division Young Artist Piano Competitions of Music Teachers National Association held at Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee. Carter played a memorized one-hour solo program with a complete major work for piano and orchestra.

We wish to congratulate all students for their well-earned awards!



Left to Right:
LeMorris Hunt, Brandi Ward,
Rebecca Carter, Justin Kelly

Brian Eads '02 graduated from Florida State University in May with a Masters of Music in Orchestral Conducting. While there, he was fortunate enough to be the graduate assistant conductor of the University Philharmonia and the University Symphony Orchestra. Brian also taught an undergraduate course in conducting in the 2004/2005 school year. He has recently moved to Tupelo, MS to serve as Minister of Worship at West Jackson Street Baptist Church.

Jennifer Barron Dunlap '00 is enjoying married life in a brand new home after her wedding in June of 2005. She is teaching K-5 music at Harper McCaughn Elementary in Long Beach, MS. Her husband Joel is the choir director at Long Beach Middle and High School. Jennifer reports that five years of her teaching materials were lost when her school was badly damaged by hurricane Katrina. With the help of a wonderful teacher in Hernando, MS, she is attempting to regroup and collect new lesson plans. She sends a big "hello" to everyone at DSU.

Kimberly Grant-Mathews '95 and husband Chris welcomed baby boy Christian in early January 2006. Christian weighs 8 lbs. 4 oz. and has black hair and black eyes. Kim, Chris, and Christian make their home in Houston, TX.

ADD YOUR NAME HERE! Please send us a few lines about your professional and personal news, and we'll share it with fellow music friends and alumni in the next editions of *Music Notes*.

Email: acheesmn@deltastate.edu
 Call: 662 846-4608
 Write: Music Notes; P.O. 3256; Delta State University; Cleveland, MS 38733

2005 Woodwind Symposium

On November 19th the music department held a woodwind day "Celebrating Woodwinds". It was a day of classes, masterclasses, ensemble playing and concerts. Approximately 30 students from across north Mississippi attended Celebrating Woodwinds at no charge. (We were also pleased to have several alumni visit with their students.) Mu Phi Epsilon provided a free lunch to all in attendance.

Our guest artists were Dr. Shelley Collins, flutist from Seattle Pacific University, Dr. John Masserini clarinetist from Idaho State University and Dr. Albie Micklich, bassoonist from the University of Nebraska. Dr. Andrea Cheeseman and Dr. Keith Pettway of Deltas State were hosts for the day.

One highlight of the day was the world premier of "Katrina", a piece for two flutes, oboe, bassoon, piano and claves by Oregon composer Jennifer Grady. This piece was dedicated to the composer's father who was displaced by hurricane Katrina in September.

For information on next year's symposium, contact Dr. Andrea Cheeseman at 662-846-4608 or acheesmn@deltastate.edu

JAZZ BAND PERFORMANCES

In April, the Jazz Ensemble will be performing in Vicksburg, MS, at the Alcorn State Jazz Festival, and will present its annual spring concert April 20 in the BPAC. The ensemble is also planning performances for several high schools in late March and April.

Delta State University 2006 Honor Band Clinic

The Delta State University 2006 Honor Band Clinic was held on February 3-5. The clinic began with check-in on Friday, February 3 beginning at 4:00 in Zeigel Hall. The students had their first rehearsal that evening followed by a dance in the Student Center. On Saturday, the students continued rehearsing in preparation for the concert on Sunday, February 5, at 2:00. The concert was held in the state-of-the-art Bologna Performing Arts Center.

This year's Honor Band was comprised of 100 of the most talented students in Mississippi representing 35 of the state's high schools. These students earned their place in the ensemble following auditions that took place during the fall semester.

The guest clinician was Dr. William Wakefield, Director of Bands at the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Wakefield's program for the concert included *Alligator Alley* by Michael Daugherty, "Dance No. 1" from *Jazz Suite No. 2* by Dmitri Shostakovich, arranged by Johan de Meij, and *American Elegy* by Frank Ticheli, and *Who's Who in Navy Blue* by John Philip Sousa, edited by Frank Byrne.

Percussion Area Activities

By Larry Bradford

DSU Percussion Symposium...

The DSU Percussion Symposium will be held on the campus of DSU May 6, 2006. This is an all-day event featuring our guest clinician Matt Savage from the University of North Carolina. Matt was a member of the legendary Bayonne Bridgemen and has served as director and arranger for other successful drum and bugle corps. Matt is heavily involved with the indoor activity and WGI. Matt will be giving a rudimental snare drum clinic and will end the day with a drum circle for all participants.

Other concerts will be given by the Gulf Coast Community College Percussion Ensemble, Desoto Central High School Percussion Ensemble, Tupelo High School Indoor Drum line, Delta State University Percussion Ensemble and the DSU Steel Band. We will also have a "Fastest Drummer" Competition with awards be given to the best high school and college performer. The most popular part of the day will be "TONS" of door prizes to be given away at the end of the day. This is a free event and open to all high school and college percussionists, parents, and directors. Look for information coming soon to local schools in your area. If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with me at 662-846-4611 or by email: jbradfrd@deltastate.edu

Steel Band...

Finally!! All of the steel drums have arrived! We now have our complete set of drums after a long 16 month wait. The band has played several concerts since November around Cleveland and DSU. The steel band has 16 concerts lined up in the spring semester. Among these are a 3 day tour of East Arkansas and North Mississippi. This tour will be April 16-19, 2006 and will include performances at the following schools: Southaven, Forrest City Arkansas, Desoto Central, Tupelo, Itawamba Community College, Aberdeen, Columbus, and Houston Mississippi. This group has made tremendous progress in 4 months and I am very proud of each of them.

Mississippi Day of Percussion...

The DSU Percussion Ensemble and Steel Band will be participating in the Mississippi Day of Percussion April 8, 2006 in the Jackson area. This year's event will feature clinicians from the New Orleans area along with concerts from all the states universities.

Performance...

The DSU Percussion and Steel Band presented its Fall 2005 concert on December 1, 2005 in the concert hall of the Bologna Performing Arts Center. The percussion ensemble featured works such as *October Mountain* by Alan Hovhaness, *Assimilation* by Anthony Cirone, *Greensleeves* arranged by Gordon Peters, and *Sabre Dance* by Khachaturian. Dr. Ed Bahr was featured on trombone on *Mysterious Horse Before the Gate* by Alan Hovhaness. The second half of the concert featured the steel band in its debut performance on campus. They played a mixture of calypso, soca, Christmas, and popular tunes like *Sunset*, *Jump in the Line*, *Margaritaville*, and *Silent Night*.

In other news...

Delta State University will also host the State Championships for the Mississippi Indoor Association Friday, March 31, 2006 in Sillers Coliseum. There will be 12-18 color guard and indoor drum lines from across the state competing for the state title. Tickets are \$6.00 at the door.



Members of the Fall 2005 Percussion Ensemble are:

Left to Right
 Mark Burgos, Lisa Bush, Amber Horton, Danny Smith, Jay
 Brennan, Brad Holifield, Stephen Malone, Eric Barnes, Desta
 Hallmark, Elizabeth King, and Megan Morgan

SPRING 2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Metropolitan Opera North MS District Auditions	January 28	10:00 am	D&PL Theatre
Honor Band Weekend	February 3-5		
Honor Choir Weekend	February 10-12		
Senior Recital: Rachel Crum, mezzo soprano	March 2	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
First Tuesday Series: DSU Steel Drum Band	March 7	12:00 noon	Jobe Auditorium
Senior Recitals: Tim Goodson, trombone; Matt Walker, euphonium and Desi Melancon, soprano	March 9	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
Senior Recitals: Jenna Jackson, soprano; Martiné Hawkins, soprano	March 23	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
Guest Artist Recital: Misook Yun, soprano; Kumiko Shimizu, piano	March 25	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
Faculty Recital: Karen Fosheim, piano	March 28	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
MS Indoor Guard and Percussion Association State Championships	March 31	TBA	Sillers Auditorium
Senior Recital: Rebecca Carter, piano	April 3	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
Student Composition Showcase	April 4	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
Junior Recital: Adriel Hill, piano	April 6	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
MS NATS Artist Recital	April 7	7:30 pm	D&PL Theatre
MS NATS Student Competition Finals	April 8	9:00 am	D&PL Theatre
Senior Recital: Justin Kelly, piano	April 9	3:00 pm	Recital Hall
Senior Recital: Christen Penny, soprano	April 10	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
Brass Chamber Ensembles	April 11	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
Chamber & Delta Singers Concert	April 17	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
Senior Recital: Dustin Haley, saxophone	April 20	1:40 pm	Recital Hall
Jazz Ensemble Concert	April 20	7:30 pm	D&PL Theatre
Retirement Recital: Keith Pettway, flute; Lois Hobbs Yu, piano	April 23	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
Faculty Lecture/Recital: Mary Lenn Buchanan, soprano	April 24	7:30 pm	Recital Hall
"Three by Three: 3 Choral Masterworks, 3 Choirs"	April 30	7:30 pm	D&PL Theatre
Percussion Ensemble & Steel Band Concert	May 1	7:30 pm	D&PL Theatre
Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band Concert	May 2	7:30 pm	D&PL Theatre
2005-2006 Honors Recital	May 4	7:30 pm	D&PL Theatre
Percussion Symposium	May 6	All Day	Zeigel Hall



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