

# Music Notes

Delta State University  
Department of Music  
Fall 2011  
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## *From the Chair's Desk.....*

At the first campus-wide faculty meeting this year, DSU president John Hilpert declared 2011-12 as the "Year of the Student" on campus. The idea of the year-long theme is to ensure that our students have a sense of appreciation and support during their time at Delta State. I'll have to say that the Department of Music will not have to make much of an effort to accomplish this goal as our music faculty and staff have always been student-centered to the "nth" degree.



They offer courteous support, personalized top-notch instruction, and serve as caring mentors to our music majors. Whether it is taking time outside of the classroom for extra tutoring, giving extra or longer lessons, attending student recitals and concerts, having a casual conversation in the halls, or sharing a cup of coffee and a cupcake, the music professors and staff in our department truly care about our music students and want them to succeed.

However, working with our music majors is generally a pretty easy thing to do since our students have some of the best attitudes around. They are friendly, helpful, and genuinely caring young people who are supportive of each other, regardless of differing profiles and backgrounds. What a great combination!

Although I'm sure we'll think of a few new ways to make 2011-12 an "extra-special" year for our students, our encouraging efforts won't end in May, but will continue year to year. This recipe for success should not go unnoticed. We urge our alumni and patrons of the department to share this "DSU music phenomena" around the state and region whenever possible. We want what we on campus see and experience on a daily basis to be common knowledge off campus. Hopefully, that "recipe" will inspire more and more talented music students to come to DSU with the goal of becoming outstanding music teachers, dynamic performers and energetic arts supporters, wherever their paths may lead.

Adding to this outstanding faculty, I take great pleasure in announcing four new appointments to the DSU Department of Music while wishing Drs. Bradford, Meerdink, Waters, and Wojcik the best of luck in their new endeavors. New to our department are Mr. Josh Armstrong, Assistant Director of Bands and percussion instructor; Mr. Nicholas Cummins, Director of Choral Activities; Mr. Joe Moore, Director of Bands; and Dr. Chad Payton, countertenor and Assistant Professor of Music. They are a very accomplished and congenial group of young men who will ably build on the successes of their talented predecessors. I also want to congratulate Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, faculty collaborative pianist, on her promotion to Associate Professor with tenure status. It is well-deserved.

In closing, I thought that June 30 would complete my year as Interim Chair of the department, one which I thoroughly enjoyed and found to be a stimulating change of pace for me. I hope that this year will present new and exciting challenges and be one of the best yet for the department. I appreciate the continuing leadership of Dr. Hankins as Interim Dean, the cooperation of our students, and the warm support and collaboration of my music colleagues in making this past year a positive experience for me both professionally and personally.

Coda: Let me invite everyone to join us at Homecoming in early November for our Alumni Cookout and the new Alumni Band experience in addition to other planned activities that weekend. Information will be forthcoming. Also, look for our calendar of events in this newsletter and on our web pages at [www.music.deltastate.edu](http://www.music.deltastate.edu).

*Dr. Mark Butler, Interim Chair and Professor of Music*

## Alumni Awards 2011

Each year, the Department of Music recognizes special friends and alumni of the department in three separate categories: Service, Philanthropy and Alumnus/a of the Year. Nominations are submitted both from within the department and from the DSU alumni community at large.

We are proud to announce the 2011 award winners. Mr. and Mrs. Noel Funchess received the 2011 Service Award in recognition of their stellar audience attendance record at departmental concerts and recitals. The 2011 Philanthropy Award went to Mr. Rogers Varner for his tireless efforts in developing a successful annual fund-raising event, The Big Band Bash, for the DSU Jazz Ensemble.

Our 2011 Alumna of the Year is Dr. Kimberly Broadwater. Her professional career as a musician, educator and civic leader serves as an extraordinary example of achievement for our students and alumni to follow.



l-r: Mr. Rogers Varner, Mrs. Lynnelle Funchess, Mr. Noel Funchess, Dr. Kimberly Broadwater

Please join us in congratulating our 2011 Award winners! Nominations are now open for the 2012 awards, and will be accepted until March 1, 2012. More information can be found at: <http://www.deltastate.edu/pages/3348.asp>

## Faculty News

**Dr. Shelley Collins**, Assistant Professor of Flute and Music History, performed with Dr. Andrea Cheeseman, former DSU woodwinds professor, at the National Flute Association convention in August. She also moderated a panel discussion, “Multiple Woodwinds Performers Roundtable Discussion.” Participating in the panel were fellow DSU music faculty member Dr. Bret Pimentel, Jim Walker (former principal flute of the LA Philharmonic and first-call flutist for Hollywood studio recordings), David Weiss (ethnic flutist for Broadway’s “The Lion King”), and Tereasa Payne (performer throughout Florida with national touring Broadway shows).

**Dr. Karen Fosheim**, Professor of Music, spent a month during July and August 2011 in Guinea, West Africa. While there, she studied djembe and dundun with the lead drummer of Ballet Merveilles, Ballaket Cissoko. She also spent a week with Ballet Merveilles learning about the traditional dances and the stories behind the dances. In May, Dr. Fosheim attended a week-long drumming workshop in Atlanta with legendary Guinean drummers Mamady Keita and Famadou Konaté. In June, Dr. Fosheim served on the faculty of the Janice Wyatt Mississippi Summer Arts Institute held at the Bologna Performing Arts Center at DSU, teaching West African drumming and dance to 12-18 year olds. Dr. Fosheim performed a solo piano recital in Webster, South Dakota in March. She continues to serve as the College Music Society Southern Chapter Board Member in Performance and as the Piano Area Chair for the Mississippi Music Teachers Association.

**Dr. Douglas Mark**, Assistant Professor of Low Brass, and his violinist wife, Ms. Anne-Gaëlle Ravetto, presented a world-premiere performance of *Conversations for Trombone & Violin* by American composer Dexter Morrill at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Southern Regional Chapter Conference of the College Music Society in Memphis, Tennessee, in February 2011. In May, Dr. Mark served as principal bass trombonist with the Mississippi Wind Symphony. Additionally, he performed as special guest with the Eastman Trombone Choir, during the International Trombone Association festival in June and also performed with the original Broadway cast of the “Jersey Boys” in the Bologna Performing Arts Center’s recent production of *The Midtown Men*. Dr. Mark continues to serve as Brass Area Chair for the Mississippi Music Teachers Association.

**Dr. Bret Pimentel**, Assistant Professor of Woodwinds, recently performed at Mississippi Clarinet Day in Oxford, MS, and at the Clarinet Academy of the South, in Athens, GA. He also served as a panelist for a roundtable discussion on woodwind doubling at the National Flute Association Convention in Charlotte, NC. The panel, moderated by fellow DSU faculty member Dr. Shelley Collins, included top professional musicians from the Hollywood film scoring studios and Broadway theater orchestras. Dr. Pimentel also performed a faculty recital to kick off the 2011-2012 school year, which included the world premiere of a newly-commissioned work for multiple woodwinds soloist. Dr. Pimentel is proud to be a newly-inducted member of the Pi Kappa Lambda national music honor society, Zeta Rho chapter.

**Dr. Kumiko Shimizu**, Associate Professor of Music, was invited to co-present a performance entitled *Korean and Japanese Works for Four Hands and Two Pianos: Cultures through Music* with Dr. Jung-Won Shin at the College Music Society International Conference in Seoul, Korea, in July. Dr. Shimizu was also invited to perform with Dr. Shin in *Wednesday Brunch Concert* at Daejeon City Hall in Daejeon, Korea.

**Dr. Jung-Won Shin**, Assistant Professor of Music, was invited to perform at the All Liszt Piano Concert in celebration of Franz Liszt’s 200th Birthday at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City, New York, in February 2011. She also presented a collaborative lecture recital with Amy Yeung, titled “A discussion of Richard Strauss’ treatment of the vocal and piano parts in relationship to the poetry in four of his songs about the night,” at the College Music Society (CMS) Southern Regional Conference at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, in February 2011. Last July, Dr. Shin presented a piano duo recital with Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, titled “Korean and Japanese Works for Four Hands and Two Pianos: Cultures through Music,” at the CMS Biennial International Conference in Seoul, Korea. The recital featured works for piano four hands and piano duo written by Korean and Japanese composers. She also presented a joint concert with Dr. Shimizu as part of the Wednesday Brunch Concert series at Daejeon City Hall in Daejeon, Korea, on July 13, 2011. The concert featured solo pieces by Liszt, Mozart, and Sung, and works for four hands by Nakada and Barber. This year Dr. Shin will continue to serve as Chamber Music Chair of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association.

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## Emeritus News

**Dr. David Caudill**, Emeritus Professor of Music (voice, music history, music theory, composition), sends greetings from Boone, North Carolina, where he says “it is beautiful, but very cold in the winter.” Dr. Caudill has continued to be active as a composer since leaving DSU, evidenced by recent and upcoming performances of his music: **O My Dear Heart** for SATB Chorus and Guitar premiered at the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers (CFAMC) 2010 National Conference at Indiana Wesleyan University last October; **The Songs of Separation and Death** for Mezzo Soprano, Piano and Violin, based on six sonnets by William Shakespeare, at the 60th Anniversary Southeastern Composers League Forum at NCSU this past March; **I Will Praise the Lord** for SSAATTBB Chorus (Organ), chosen for performance at the service of Choral Evensong at the historic St. Pancras Church during the London Festival of Contemporary Church Music in May 2011 in London, England; and another opera, “The Scarlet Letter”, based on the novel by Nathaniel Hawthorne, which Dr. Caudill reports is “in progress”. The DSU music department wishes David and Donna all our best as they enjoy their retirement in North Carolina.

## Welcome New Faculty...



**Mr. Joe D. Moore** is Instructor of Music and Director of Bands at Delta State University, where he conducts the Wind Ensemble, directs the "Pride of the Delta" Marching Band and teaches courses in conducting and instrumental music methods. He received the Bachelor of Music Education degree from East Tennessee State University, the Master of Music degree in music education from the University of Miami (FL) and is presently a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts in Wind

Band Conducting degree from the University of Kentucky. His primary conducting teachers have been John Cody Birdwell, Nicholas DeCarbo, Lee Kjelson, Donald Oglesby, and George Naff, with additional studies and master classes with Timothy Mahr, Jack Stamp, Christian Zembower, Allen McMurray, Thomas Caneva, John Boyd, Joseph Hermann and David Waybright.

Prior to coming to Delta State, Mr. Moore served as a Graduate Conducting Associate at the University of Kentucky where he assisted with the UK Wildcat Marching Band, Pep Bands, Wind Ensemble, Symphony Band, Concert Band, and taught undergraduate conducting. In addition to serving as Marching Band Director at East Tennessee State University (2002), Mr. Moore taught in the public schools of Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia, including Rome High School in Rome, Georgia; Tennessee High School in Bristol, Tennessee; Pulaski County High School in Dublin, Virginia; and Sullivan East High School in Bluff City, Tennessee. During his sixteen years as a high school band director, Mr. Moore's bands earned numerous awards and honors in marching, concert, and jazz venues throughout the Southeast region as well as in Ireland.

He has served as a guest conductor, adjudicator and clinician for high school bands and orchestras throughout the Southeast as well as serving as an adjudicator for Drum Corps Midwest. Mr. Moore holds memberships in Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Tau Beta Sigma (honorary), Kappa Kappa Psi (honorary), Mississippi Bandmasters Association, National Band Association, and the College Band Directors National Association.

**Mr. Josh Armstrong** is the new Instructor of Percussion and Assistant Director of Bands at Delta State University. Currently he is finishing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Percussion Performance at The University of Arizona. Armstrong received his bachelor's degree in music education and his master's degree in percussion performance from Texas Tech University. Armstrong has performed with numerous groups



including the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra, the Midland Symphony Orchestra, the Waterloo/Cedar Falls (Iowa) orchestra, and the Belle Carita Chamber Players. He was a founding member of the J<sup>2</sup> percussion duo.

While at the University of Arizona he directed the steel drum bands, as well as taught private lessons and percussion ensemble. He was also a xylophone soloist at the 2008 Arizona Percussive Arts Society Day of Percussion.

He spent the 2009-2010 academic year at the University of Northern Iowa where he was the Instructor of Percussion studies. While living in Cedar Falls he was a guest soloist with the Waterloo Municipal Band. Recently he traveled to the 2011 National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy at Texas Tech University where he performed with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Measure Percussion Duo. His primary teachers include Dr. Lisa Rogers, Mr. Alan Shinn, Dr. Norman Weinberg, and Professor Gary Cook.

**Mr. Nicholas B. Cummins** is the new Director of Choral Activities at Delta State University where he conducts the Chamber Singers, Chorale, and Delta Singers. Prior to coming to Delta State University, Mr. Cummins was a Graduate Teaching Fellow at Louisiana State University where he conducted the LSU Women's Chorale and assisted the choral department with recruitment and technology. He also taught public school choral music at Hewitt- Trussville High School



in Birmingham Alabama and John Marshall High School in San Antonio, Texas. He has been involved in church music most recently as Director of Youth Music at First United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and as Director of Music at St. John's United Methodist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Cummins has served as a clinician for high school choirs in Alabama, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Mississippi, and for the East Baton Rouge Parish Honor Choir. In addition, he has presented topics at conferences about technology in the choral rehearsal and assessment in choral ensembles. He is also a member of the American Choral Director's Association, the National Collegiate Choral Organization, College Music Society, and the National Association for Music Education (MENC).

Mr. Cummins received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Mississippi, the Master of Arts degree in Music Education from the University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB), and is presently an ABD candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting at Louisiana State University. His primary conducting teachers have been Dr. Jerry Jordan, Dr. Philip L. Copeland, and Dr. W. Kenneth Fulton. He has also studied in Conducting Masterclasses with Dr. Jerry McCoy, Dr. John Dickson, Dr. Jefferson Johnson, and Dr. Jerry Blackstone.

Since moving to Cleveland, Mr. Cummins has also assumed the position of Director of Music at First United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Whitney, are thrilled to become part of the DSU community.



**Dr. Chad R. Payton**, countertenor, is excited to be joining the faculty at Delta State University as an Assistant Professor of Music. He is teaching applied voice, English and Italian Diction for Singing, the sophomore sequence of aural skills, and the general education course, Experiencing Music. Dr. Payton obtained his DMA in Vocal Performance from the University of Kansas and both his MM (2006) and

BM (2004) from the University of Missouri. He is frequently featured in regional oratorio performances with various orchestras, and is an avid recitalist and vocal pedagogue. During the summers he serves as an interim voice instructor and General Manager of Seagle Music Colony, the nation's oldest young artist program for opera and music theatre, located in upstate New York.

He made both his Carnegie Hall and Kennedy Center operatic debuts in the world premiere of Michael Ching's *Corps of Discovery: A Musical Journey*, as well as his Broadway debut at the York Theater in the same production. International performances include soloist at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, a choral tour of Prague, Vienna, and Budapest with the University of Missouri's University Singers, and an upcoming recital tour of Mexico City with his professional chamber ensemble, Payton and the Pipes, this December. Research interests include American song cycles written specifically for countertenor, as well as French *mélodie* performance practice.



## Delta State Opera

### DSU OPERA LIGHTS UP BROADWAY

The spring of 2011 was a successful semester for the DSU Opera, and the production “A Tribute to Broadway” was a tremendous performance. Solos, duets and chorus show-stoppers from well-known Broadway musicals graced the stage of Jobe auditorium. New musicals as well as those with familiar tunes were woven into a night of musical pleasure. The students’ singing and dancing were superb, and the audience was certainly entertained. The group made such a roaring impression that they were invited to sing a highlight performance for the DSU Staff Council at their monthly meeting in April.



New faces once again add to the excitement of a new school year in DSU Opera. Improvisation, acting techniques, and stage movement will highlight the next few weeks of study. Then the opera arias will be soaring. Mark your calendars for “An Afternoon of Opera Scenes” November 17, 2011 at the Bologna Performing Arts Center.

### DR. HERRON RECOGNIZED FOR BLACKBOARD EXCELLENCE



Dr. Teri A. Herron, Assistant Professor of Music, was named a winner of a Blackboard Catalyst Award for the Exemplary Course Program for her online course Music in American Culture. This award honors members of the community who design and develop exciting and innovative courses that represent the very best in technology and learning.

Part of the annual Blackboard Catalyst Awards program since 2000, the Blackboard Exemplary Course Program Award highlights technologically rich, engaging, well designed, and pedagogically sound courses that showcase best practices for the user community. The Blackboard Catalyst Awards program annually recognizes and honors innovation and excellence in the Blackboard global community of practice, where teachers and learners work every day to redefine what is possible when leveraging technology. “The Blackboard Catalyst Award winners truly represent the best in innovative thinking and best practices in education,” said Ray Henderson, president of Blackboard Learn. “Their work sets a great example for the millions of educators and students using our teaching and learning solutions every day as part of the global community of practice. We’re pleased to recognize their contributions and celebrate their accomplishments.”

Dr. Herron was honored alongside other Exemplary Course Program winners during *BbWorld*®, Blackboard’s annual user conference held in July in Las Vegas, Nevada. For a complete list of Blackboard Catalyst Award winners please visit: <http://blackboard.com/catalyst>.

### OPERA STUDENTS “GIDDY UP” AT DSU CAREER DAY



The DSU Opera class helped music faculty at the booth for the Department of Music at the DSU Career Day in August. The western theme was seen in their bandanas, cowboy hats, and bolo ties. Even Drs. Shin, Shimizu, and Buchanan joined in the costuming and fun. Several of the day’s participants showed an interest in the choral and instrumental activities of the Department of Music. A great time was had by all!

### RENAISSANCE GATHERS FOR REUNION

The Mississippi Gulf Coast was the site of a recent Reunion Weekend for members of the pop vocal and instrumental group “Renaissance” that once proudly represented Delta State throughout Mississippi and the Mid-South region for over 30 years. Mr. Gene Ayers, retired assistant professor of music at DSU and Director Emeritus, organized and led the group for most of its many years in operation, and was present at the reunion. Members from all decades since the 1970s were also in attendance. The group held its last performing season around 2008.

In its time, Renaissance performed to standing-room only crowds at campus concerts in the Bologna PAC and as well as at many functions



around the Delta. They also performed on cruise ships and in Europe during summers for several years supported by very popular “spaghetti supper” fundraisers. Initially performing jazz-oriented stylings, the group eventually focused on top 40 pop, rock, and country music charts by the late 1980s. The group was connected to the DSU Department of Music in various capacities over its 34 year span. We offer our congratulations to those DSU alumni who were members and enjoyed this celebration on the Mississippi coast.

*Music Notes* is edited by Dr. Douglas Mark. Send all alumni and change of address information to [dmark@deltastate.edu](mailto:dmark@deltastate.edu) or Dr. Mark, P.O. Box 3256, DSU, Cleveland, MS 38733



## Our Alumni Report...

**Chiquita Allen (BME, 2011)** is a K-5 Music Teacher at Luther Branson Elementary School in Jackson, MS. She has also begun the Master of Music Education degree at Mississippi College in Clinton.

**Dr. Debra Floyd Atkinson (BM, 1978; MME, 2002)** is beginning this year in a new position as choral director and teacher of music theory, music history and voice at MS Gulf Coast Community College– Jeff Davis Campus. Debra says, “I am so thankful for the education that I received at Delta State. I would not trade it for anything!”

**Bradley Ballard (BME, 2011)** has been appointed to the position of Associate Director of Horn Lake Bands, in Horn Lake, MS.

**Andy Beasley (BME, 2011)** is living in Brandon, MS and teaching music at Terry High School in Terry, MS.

**Lyndsey Lamm Bobo (BME, 2003)** is currently in her 7th year teaching in MS. She has recently begun a new teaching assignment for middle school and high school band at Northwest Rankin, one of Mississippi's largest 6A, STAR schools. She completed a master's degree in instrumental music education from The University of Southern Mississippi in the spring of 2010. Lyndsey is currently serving as interim secretary for the Capitol District Band Directors Association. She currently resides in Brandon, MS with her 7-year-old son, Lyndon.

**Dr. Kimberly Broadwater (BM, 1992)** was the recipient of the Title III Summer Development Grant at Mississippi Valley State University. This grant will allow her to research the effects of singing on blood pressure using state of the art medical equipment. This study is a follow-up to a pilot study that was presented at the National Care of the Professional Voice Symposium in Philadelphia, PA. Dr. Broadwater was also selected as the DSU Music Alumna of the Year in the spring of 2011.

**Stephen Bush (BME, 2008)** has accepted a position with the North Pike School District in Summit, MS. He will be serving as the assistant middle school and assistant high school band director, working with Clint Boleware and Lynn Weaver, two other DSU music alumni.

**Toni Canizaro (BME, 2000)** is currently teaching 9th grade algebra at Raymond Freshman Academy and a basic math skills course for adults at Hinds Community College. Toni hopes to complete her master's degree in education next summer at Mississippi College.

**Phillip Carter (BSIS, 2010)** is working as a reference librarian at Carnegie Public Library in Clarksdale, MS.

**Dr. Harry Clarke (BME, 1959)** celebrated his retirement from the University of Kentucky this past summer. Over his 46-year tenure at UK, Dr. Clarke served in a number of capacities including Director of Bands, Student Teacher Supervisor and Director of the School of Music. Congratulations Dr. Clarke!

**Greg Cobb (BA, 2009)** was hired as a sales associate at Memphis Drum Shop in 2010, and in March 2011, he was promoted to Assistant Manager. He also performs with Blue Mother Tupelo (hailing from Nashville) as much as his schedule allows.

**Jessica Williams Contreras (BME, 2003)** is beginning another year as choral director at Lewisburg High School in Desoto County, MS. Jessica's choral program now has three choirs, which are consistently earning superior ratings in concert and sight reading. She earned the MM degree in 2005 from the University of MS. However, the biggest development in her and her husband's life has been the birth of their son, Alexander Chad in July of 2010.

**Bill Eilers (BME, 1994)** serves as the Director of Bands/Choirs and teaches Spanish at Florien High School in Florien, LA.

**Jessica Flowers (BA, 2011)** is still stuck at her Army training, but she should see the completion in March or April of 2012. As Jessica states, “The military is mental!”

**Darlene McCune Gilbert (BME '98)** married Casey Gilbert on June 18, 2011. She currently teaches choral music, piano, and general music at Robert Lewis Middle School and Natchez High School in Natchez, MS.

**Dr. Karen Van Devender Goodwin (BA, 2001) and Michael Goodwin (BA, 1999; MME, 2001)** currently live in Coppell, Texas and are expecting their first child in October 2011. Michael is the head band director and fine arts department chair for Spence Middle School Talented and Gifted Magnet in Dallas, TX, where he serves on numerous leadership teams. Dr. Karen (BS Anatomy, BS Health and Wellness, and DC '10-Parker College) is a successful chiropractor in Dallas, TX at the Women's Natural Health Center. She has dedicated her career to helping other women overcome women's health issues using chiropractic and functional endocrinology, with a special emphasis on breast cancer prevention in honor of her own mother's fight against breast cancer.

**JJ Hatfield (BME, 2011)** has been hired as head band director at South Pontotoc High School.

**Stephanie Holmes (BME '04)** is the new Vice President for Public Relations for the MS Music Teachers Association. She is currently teaching piano and music related courses at Kosciusko High School.

## Our Alumni Report...

**Becky Joy (BME/BM, 2002)** has begun a new job teaching music at Starkville Academy. To say that she loves the work is an understatement, but she does appreciate having a new room, a good budget, and of course, a monthly salary. In Becky's own words, "Hot Dog!!!"

**Gene/Kyle Kachenavich (BA, 2011)** is pursuing a master's degree in Music Composition at Butler University in Indianapolis, IN. He is also employed at American Eagle at the Castleton Mall in Fishers, IN.

**Mandi King (BME, 2010)** is excited about rebuilding the band program as Director of Bands at Forest High School in Forest, MS. Mandi hopes to see all of her classmates this year at the DSU Pig Pickin'.

**Marcus Lewis (BME, 2008)** has been appointed to the position of Head Band Director at East Side High School in Cleveland, MS.

**Sheila and Ashley Miguez (BME, 2000)** have opened their own studio in Flowood Mississippi - "Selah Music Instruction." Sheila teaches voice and Kindermusik, and Ashley teaches voice, guitar, percussion, and piano. They also have three other faculty working with them. Since their opening in June 2011, they have already outgrown their studio facility. They would love for any DSU music alumni to visit their school and teach a master class or provide a mini-recital.

**Jennifer Lungrin Milner (BME, 2000)** is beginning her sixth year of employment at South Pontotoc Elementary, teaching PreK through 5<sup>th</sup> grade music to approximately 800 students. She serves as Vice President of the MS Orff Chapter, Advocacy Chair and North Site Fall Music Workshop Chair of MMEA, and is an active workshop leader/presenter, and mentor. She has completed her national board certification and is currently pursuing an MME degree at University of Mississippi. Jennifer and her husband also operate Ladye Kathryn Custom Catering. Needless to say, Jennifer is not bored.

**Jessica O'Brien (BME, 2007)** is beginning her fifth year of teaching at Arlington Heights Elementary School in the Pascagoula, MS School District. She enjoys helping her colleagues with new technology that her district generously provides. Her future plans are to pursue national board certification and a Master of Music Education degree.

**Robert Presley (BA, 2003)** recently moved to Ridgeland, MS where he is employed as a GIS Analyst at Central Mississippi Planning and Development District. Robert is enjoying learning all the aspects of his new job and negotiating the traffic in the Jackson area. He is even dusting off his guitar to renew his playing with some of his colleagues.

**Joe Raymond (BME, 2010)** is presently serving as one of two band directors at Byram Middle School, just southwest of Jackson, MS. The program is 6-8 grade and currently has just over 270 students enrolled.

**Lindsey Roy (BM '11)** has begun work on her Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA. Lindsey is already knee-deep in studying Vocal Solo Literature and learning a plethora of new voice music.

**Ben Tuberville (BME '11)** is working with the Hinds County Public Schools as band director at Bolton-Edwards Middle School and Utica Elementary-Middle School. Ben is thrilled to be working with great colleagues and a wonderful group of students.

**Kelli Wingert Wallace (BME, 1999)** has recently moved back to Cleveland, MS to assume the role of assistant band director at Cleveland High School. In May of 2011, Kelli earned her master's degree in educational leadership from the Mississippi University for Women.

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### Do You Have News You'd Like to Share?

Please send any news items or address updates to:

dmark@deltastate.edu or Dr. Douglas Mark, P.O. Box 3256, DSU, Cleveland, MS 38733

### GOT SUMMER PLANS?

#### SUMMER STUDY 2012 in GUINEA, WEST AFRICA

Study traditional drumming and dance, learn about traditional and modern culture, and earn college (graduate) credit. Contact Karen Fosheim for more details.  
kfosheim@deltastate.edu or 662-846-4622.

## MMTA Competition Winners

The Mississippi Music Teachers Association Collegiate Competition, hosted by Dr. Karen Fosheim and Dr. Jung-Won Shin, was held at DSU on March 5.

Nine DSU Music students received awards in the competition. Saxophonist Austin White earned 1<sup>st</sup> place in both the Concerto Competition and the Junior/Senior Solo Woodwinds division. In the Freshman/Sophomore Solo Woodwinds division, flutists Jessica Egdorf and Robyn Rouse received 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place. In the Junior/Senior Jazz Solo category, 1<sup>st</sup> place was awarded to saxophonist Steven Hugley.

In the Junior/Senior Solo Brass division, trombonist Brian Thomson received 1<sup>st</sup> place, and in the Freshman/Sophomore Solo Brass division, tubist Josiah Andrews was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place.

The DSU Saxophone Quartet (Steven Hugley, Austin White, Rondell Evans, and Will Bryer) was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Junior/Senior Chamber Music division, while the DSU Flute Trio (Amanda Corkran, Jessica Egdorf, and Robyn Rouse) received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Freshman/Sophomore division.



Front Row, l-r: Amanda Corkran, Robyn Rouse, Jessica Egdorf  
Back Row, l-r: Rondell Evans, Steven Hugley, Will Bryer, Austin White, Brian Thomson, Josiah Andrews

## Art of the Piano



Art of the Piano 2011

The Art of the Piano will be held in February 2012 at the Bologna Performing Arts Center and Zeigel Hall at DSU. This event is open to all piano students and teachers. Participants in 2011 included approximately 35 students and teachers from Cleveland, Greenville, Clarksdale, and Grenada. For more information, please e-mail [music@deltastate.edu](mailto:music@deltastate.edu) or call us at (662) 846-4615.

## Calling All Alumni!!!!!!

### The DSU Department of Music Alumnus/a of the Year Award

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](mailto: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 1, 2012.

## "Key-Note" Opportunity

Here's a riddle: What question actually answers itself?

Are you scratching your head? Well, here's the answer (and question): *How much is half a grand?* **Half a grand!** That is, when 44 people give "half a grand" to purchase one key on "half a grand" piano (remember, a piano has 88 keys).

That may not be the most sophisticated riddle, but we do have a real need for new pianos in our department, especially a grand for the studio of our collaborative pianist, Dr. Kumiko Shimizu. This piano is beyond maintaining and physically-detrimental with her many rehearsals and intense practice. Replacing that piano is a high priority goal. Other pianos have aged and no longer hold tuning well and have dilapidated action. We are exploring creative ways by which to gradually streamline and update our keyboard inventory, but purchase of this grand piano is essential.

We are asking our Music alumni and friends to consider making a tax-deductible gift toward the Piano Fund to begin to address this situation. If you got out your calculator before, you saw that a quality grand piano costs as much as a new Ford Explorer. We have funds from a generous gift on reserve to put toward a new grand piano, but that gift needs to be matched to make that a reality.

If only 44 people give \$500, that would provide enough funds to complement the existing reserve funds for a piano. Or let's do a bit of math: if 88 people give \$250, 100 people give \$220, or 200 people give \$110, then that "half of a grand" would be set. Regardless of whether you can give at the "44-key" level or otherwise, your support would help to provide beautiful music and quality teaching for years to come.

### So, how many keys on a grand piano can YOU contribute?

To donate, please call 846-4606, email the department at [mbutler@deltastate.edu](mailto:mbutler@deltastate.edu), or send a check directly to the DSU Department of Music, P.O. Box 3256, Cleveland, MS 38733 which will go into our foundation account. You could also give to our account at the DSU Foundation directly by credit card at the DSU web site. There's a Give to DSU "open hand" icon at the bottom of each web page that allows you to make that gift. 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.



## MUSIC EVENTS

<b>Guest Artist:</b> Michael Shuman, piano	August 29	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> Dr. Bret Pimentel, woodwinds & Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, piano	August 30	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>9/11 Remembrance Concert: DSU Wind Ensemble</b>	September 11	3:00 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Piano Ensemble Recital: <i>Cultures Through Music</i></b> Dr. Kumiko Shimizu & Dr. Jung-Won Shin, pianos	September 19	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>70's Jubilee Concert:</b> Dr. Keith Pettway, flute & Dr. Paul Transue, piano	October 2	3:00 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Faculty Recital: <i>Modern Trombone Works</i></b> Dr. Douglas Mark, trombones, Ms. Anne-Gaëlle Ravetto, violin & Dr. Jung-Won Shin, piano	October 4	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Junior Recital:</b> Joshua Reeves, baritone	November 3	1:40 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Senior Recital:</b> Brittany Moxley, soprano	November 3	1:40 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Fall Choir Concert:</b> Chorale & Chamber Singers	November 3	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Jazz Ensemble Concert</b>	November 7	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Piano Duo Recital:</b> Dr. Jacob Clark & Dr. Jung-Won Shin, pianos	November 8	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Wind Ensemble Concert</b>	November 14	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Low Brass Ensemble Concert</b>	November 15	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Senior Recital:</b> David Mason, euphonium	November 17	1:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Opera Performance</b>	November 17	1:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Percussion Ensemble &amp; Steel Band Concert</b>	November 17	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Senior Recitals:</b> Brian Lindsay, percussion & Katie Reaves, percussion	December 1	1:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>A Delta Holiday</b>	December 2	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Community Drumming &amp; Dancing Experience</b>	December 6	7:30 PM	H.L. Nowell Student Union – State Room
<b>Holiday Choir Concert</b>	December 8	7:30 PM	First United Methodist Church, Cleveland, MS
<b>Piano Preparatory Program Recital</b>	December 10	2:00 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.

**DELTA STATE  
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