

Music Notes

Delta State University
Department of Music

Fall 2012

Volume 10, Issue 1

From the Chair's Desk.....



"What? Why? How? When?" ...these are the questions that the Department of Music faculty are pondering about our program in order to assess the comprehensiveness of our degrees, the adequacy of our facilities, and goals for the future. This is a result of working on a "self-study" required every 10 years by our accrediting agency, the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). The study will result in a document by which on-site evaluators from other universities will look into the same questions and offer their observations next February. NASM requires broad standards for accredited schools that are to be interpreted locally to ensure that graduates are adequately prepared inside of a set of common parameters. An important component of the self-study is strategic planning for the next five to ten years, giving us the chance to identify improvements, build on existing successes, and commit to different strategies and frameworks of instruction. It is also a chance to project how to best attract and retain qualified majors, respond to shifting trends and mandates, and to analyze our effectiveness, all guided by the accepted accreditation standards embedded in the overall structure.

Several of our suggested goals include increasing exposure to non-Western and non-traditional music, both through infusion across the curriculum and through immersion in an exploratory course; implementing a Master of Arts in Music degree that could be attractive to a broader range of potential students; addressing the realities of majoring in music proactively to provide students with a firmer grasp of what to expect in order to succeed and manage their time; and working toward newer and updated facilities and resources.

Some motion in the last goal began in Zeigel this summer, with several spaces receiving a decorative makeover. We are continuing to "de-clutter" by purging unused and outdated equipment and furnishings. One notable space update is the transformation of the "Renaissance" room in 201 into a dedicated faculty lounge and meeting space complete with running hot and cold water, sink, refrigerator, and several tables for dining and work. This has been sorely needed, and this outstanding and hard-working music faculty deserves it. I really enjoyed working on this metamorphosis from a long-time singular use to one to be enjoyed by all of us.

The piano faculty and I have also spent two years examining the need for new keyboard instruments and have made a choice to work toward participation in the EPIC program sponsored by the Kawai piano manufacturers. We have had several Kawai pianos on campus on trial and are currently looking for realistic funding possibilities to be able to purchase 20 new pianos over five years. I would be remiss if I did not invite you to consider making a contribution to our piano fund, regardless of the amount. Yet, a very generous gift could really make a difference to achieving this crucial goal while serving as an honorable memorial.

So, the music faculty and I will be working on this self-study through December, taking both a snapshot of current conditions and envisioning modifications that will improve the quality and value of a degree in music from Delta State University for another decade.

To that end, I'm happy to report that all of our majors who graduated this year with a BME degree were readily hired around the state as elementary music teachers and middle school and high school ensemble directors. We wish them the best and continue to commit to keeping our standards firm as we prepare the students we have now (including about 20 new majors) to be successful musicians and to make a difference in the world around them.

Dr. Mark Butler, Interim Chair and Professor of Music

Alumni Awards 2012

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 2012 award winners. Ms. ElizaBeth Beckham received the 2012 Service Award in recognition of her excellent catering and hosting of departmental events at her bakery/restaurant, The Starving Musician. The 2012 Philanthropy Award went to Mr. Jeff Ross Capwell for his on going generosity to the artistic mission of the University and the direct support he provides selected music education majors through the Jeff Ross Capwell Instrumental Music Education Scholarship.

Our 2012 Alumnus of the Year is SSgt. Zachary Wills. His professional career as a Marine musician, educator and leader serves as an extraordinary example of achievement for our students and alumni to follow.

Please join us in congratulating our 2012 Award winners! Nominations are now open for the 2013 awards, and will be accepted until March 15, 2013. More information can be found at: <http://www.deltastate.edu/pages/3348.asp>

Faculty News

Dr. Shelley Collins, Associate Professor of Flute and Music History, performed with pianist colleague Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, Associate Professor of Music, at the National Flute Association convention in August. Additionally, Collins spoke on a panel, “The Challenges and Rewards of College Recruiting in Rural Areas” and led a flute choir session for over 100 flutists. Collins taught an interdisciplinary class using music to inspire creative writing at the Janice Wyatt Summer Arts Institute at DSU in June.

Dr. Collins, Dr. Shimizu, and Dr. Bret Pimentel, Assistant Professor of Music at Delta State, were selected as Co-op Press Promotional Recording Artists in July and were chosen to record Dr. Sy Brandon’s “Meditation and Dance” for flute, bassoon, and piano. Proceeds from the recording project benefited the DSU Piano Fund.

Dr. Douglas Mark, Assistant Professor of Music, recently collaborated with Dr. Jung-Won Shin and Ms. Anne-Gaëlle Ravetto in presenting guest artist recitals at Rhodes College in Memphis, TN and Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, AR. His visit to HSU included a masterclass presentation and applied instruction to members of the low brass studio.

In March, Dr. Mark was an invited 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 served as competition judge and soloist at the 2012 Fort Worth Trombone Summit at Texas Christian University. Additionally, Dr. Mark was principal trombone with the Mississippi Wind Symphony during its 2012 season and performed with the Temptations during their recent Bologna Performing Arts Center production. 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, presented a workshop in August on “Effective Band Warm-ups.” This clinic was part of Amro Music’s series of back-to-school session for 6-12 band directors. In October, Mr. Moore will serve as an adjudicator at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College’s marching band festival / contest. Also in October, Mr. Moore will serve as guest conductor with the University of Kentucky Wind Ensemble in the Kentucky premiere of David Del Tredici’s “In Wartime.”

Dr. Chad R. Payton, Assistant Professor of Music, recently returned from New York, where he served on the voice faculty and as General Manager of the Seagle Music Colony, the nation’s oldest opera and musical theatre young artist training program. He offered the young artists several masterclasses and voice lessons each week. Seagle Music Colony performs six fully-staged productions in eight weeks, and this summer’s favorites included *Kiss Me Kate*, *Little Women*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Sweeney Todd*.

Dr. Payton is teaching applied music lessons, vocal pedagogy, and English and Italian diction this fall, and is chairing the recruitment committee for DSU’s Music Department. Dr. Payton has been invited with Dr. Kumiko Shimizu to perform selections from American composer, Lori Laitman’s, *Men with Small Heads*, at the Southern Regional National Association of Teachers of Singing conference in Baton Rouge. This song cycle served as part of his doctoral dissertation, and his performance of these pieces earned him a national finalist position in *The American Prize* vocal competition in 2012. He will also be a featured performer on the Odyssey Chamber Series in Columbia, Missouri, and is sharing the Great Spaces Concert Series in Topeka, Kansas, with international ensembles such as the Vienna Boys Choir.

Dr. Bret Pimentel, Assistant Professor of Music, continues to perform in diverse musical situations. Recent performances include classical chamber music with pianist Bruce Levingston and Brooklyn Rider, jazz as an opening act for Mose Allison, and blues with Terry “Big T” Williams. He gave a lecture/demonstration entitled “Jazz Style for Flutists” at the Mid-South Flute Festival in March, and was elected Treasurer of the Mid-South Flute Society.

Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, Associate Professor of Music, recently served as a répétiteur for the FestivalSouth Opera Young Artist Program. Additionally, she performed with Dr. Collins during the session *Gems from the NFA Anthology of American Flute Music* at the National Flute Association Convention held in Las Vegas.

Dr. Jung-Won Shin, Associate Professor of Piano and Music Theory, presented a piano duo recital at the University of Tennessee at Martin in February 2012. Last spring she performed with trombonist Dr. Douglas Mark at guest recitals held at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, AR, and Rhodes College in Memphis, TN. Last summer she was invited to present two lectures on *Performance and Music Theory* and teach college students in lessons at the Sungkyul Summer Piano Camp at Sungkyul University in Anyang, Korea. She also presented a piano ensemble lecture recital for the youth, *Joy of playing the Piano*, with two other pianists at Buam Art Hall in Seoul, Korea, in August 2012. The recital featured works for piano solo, four hands, six hands, and two pianos, written or transcribed by Liszt, Czerny, and Sauer.

Band Activities

DSU PRIDE OF THE DELTA MARCHING BAND TO CELEBRATE 2ND ANNUAL BAND DAY

On September 22, DSU Band Alumni along with selected community college and high school band members will join the "Pride of the Delta" Marching Band in a performance for DSU Band Day. The performers will join the band on the field at halftime as well as in the stands for the DSU vs. North Alabama game. In addition, the combined band will perform for the pep rally in Statesmen Park as part of the 2012 Pig Pickin' festivities.



DSU WIND ENSEMBLE SET TO PERFORM

On Monday, November 12, 2012 the Delta State University Wind Ensemble will be on in concert on the main stage of the Bologna Performing Arts Center. The concert begins at 7:30 pm and there is no admission charge.

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 15, 2013
Thursday, March 7, 2013
Friday, April 12, 2013
(9 am – 4 pm)

Auditions will also be held during our annual Honor Band & Honor Choir events.

Honor Band, January 18, 2013
Honor Choir, February 8, 2013

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

<http://music.deltastate.edu>



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GUEST ARTISTS INSPIRE STUDENTS

In March, flutist Jill Felber and collaborative pianist Diane Frazer visited the Department of Music to perform a recital of works from their newest CD, *Fusion*. Felber has performed solo recitals, chamber music, and concertos on four continents and has held residencies in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Australia, Mexico, France, Switzerland, Great Britain, Italy, Canada and the United States. She has premiered over three hundred works for the flute and has released world premiere recordings. In demand as a guest clinician because of her extraordinary motivational teaching style, Felber is currently professor of flute at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Dianne Frazer, recognized globally as a premiere collaborative pianist is known for her wit and style on and off stage. Frazer has performed with a "Who's Who" of international artists and has performed in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, and Merkin Hall. Frazer resides in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she serves as faculty at Louisiana State University and continues her multi-faceted career as a college professor, symphony pianist, opera répétiteur, adjudicator, church organist, and solo pianist.

Following the recital, Felber presented a workshop, "Extreme Makeover: Flute Edition" for members of the flute studio.



Jill Felber



Dianne Frazer

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...

Katie (Gibson) Chew (BME, 2011) writes that she is currently teaching elementary music at Luther Branson Elementary school in Canton, MS. This year, she added a 4th & 5th grade Honor Choir and a recorder karate program. She has also recently joined the Jackson Choral Society. Katie and her husband, Stephen Chew (DMI-BSIS, 2011), miss DSU and send heart-felt greetings to all!

David Mason (BME, 2012) reports that he has been hired as Assistant Band Director at Louisville High School in Louisville, MS. In addition to his duties at the high school, he leads the 7th grade band, helps with the 8th grade band, and team-teaches beginning instrumentalists. Fellow alumnus and former classmate, Brian Lindsay (BME 2012) is also on staff.

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, 2013.

Annual Music Scholarships Awarded

Endowed music scholarships were presented by the music department at the annual Honors Recital on April 18, 2012 and acknowledged at the **Arts and Sciences Scholarship Reception** on April 18, 2012.

Stephanie Peck, freshman vocal performance major, was awarded the **Maggie Flowers Ewing Scholarship** for outstanding voice majors.

The **Jeff Ross Capwell Music Scholarships** were established by DSU alumnus Mr. Jeff Ross Capwell of Memphis to promote instrumental music education by providing financial assistance and incentives to promising undergraduate instrumental music education majors. The recipients of the 2012 awards were **Justin Barnes**, freshman horn major; **Jessica Egdorf**, junior flute major; **Austin White**, senior saxophone major; and **Courtney Wier**, sophomore clarinet major. The department is very appreciative of Mr. Capwell's generous support of our instrumental music program and majors.



Pictured L-R: White, Wier, Peck, Egdorf

DSU Woodwind Students Win Big At MMTA

Delta State woodwind students made a strong showing at the Mississippi Music Teachers Association Collegiate Competitions in March. Winners representing Delta State included:

Woodwind Junior/Senior Solo:

- Austin White (saxophone), first place
- Darius Jones (clarinet), honorable mention

Woodwind Concerto:

- Austin White (saxophone), first place
- Robyn Rouse (flute), second place
- Jessica Egdorf (flute), honorable mention

Chamber Music:

- Delta State Flute Quartet (Lindsey Belton, Amanda Corkran, Jessica Egdorf, Robyn Rouse), first place
- Delta State Saxophone Ensemble (Rondell Evans, David Stafford, Austin White), second place
- Robyn Rouse (flute) and Darius Jones (clarinet), honorable mention

The flutists are students of Dr. Shelley Collins, and the clarinetists and saxophonists are students of Dr. Bret Pimentel.

Low Brass Studio Hosts “Slidin’ in the Delta” Trombone Day

On Saturday, April 14th, 2012, Dr. Douglas Mark, Assistant Professor of Music, and the DSU Low Brass studio played host to over 70 trombonists and trombone enthusiasts from around the region. The Delta State Trombone Day (a.k.a “Slidin’ in the Delta”) featured internationally acclaimed soloist and pedagogue, Dr. John Marcellus, Professor of Trombone at the Eastman School of Music. The daylong festival included recital performances by both Dr. Marcellus and The Mississippi Trombone Authority, a professional quartet of northern Mississippi trombonists. Members of the MTA include Dr. Mark, along with Drs. Richard Human and Cliff Taylor (Mississippi State University) and Mr. Jason Beghtol (Northeast Mississippi Community College).

Dr. Marcellus led a masterclass presentation, which featured six student performers, including DSU trombonists Brian Thomson and Eric Edwards. Rick Dolan, master brass technician from Amro Music Store (Memphis, TN), presented a class on trombone care and maintenance. Throughout the day, participants had the opportunity to try new Courtois, Yamaha and Bach trombones on display. DSU Trombone Day 2012 ended on a high note, with Dr. Marcellus directing the “Okra Bones,” the en-masse participant trombone choir. All enjoyed a great time!



Trombonists participated in an early morning group warm-up session.



Dr. John Marcellus works with DSU student Brian Thomson.

MUSIC EVENTS

A Series Of Unfortunate Events	September 4	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Guest Artist: S. Michael Shuman, piano and voice			
Guest Artist: Rebeca Rollene, voice			
Dr. Karen Fosheim, piano			
Opera Lecture Series	September 10	6:00 PM	Recital Hall
Faculty Recital	September 13	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Dr. Bret Pimentel, woodwinds; Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, piano			

Music Events Calendar continues on page 6

MUSIC EVENTS

Band Day	September 22	11:30 AM	
Guest Artist Recital and Masterclass Cristina Ballatori, flute; Kevin Chance, piano	September 23	3:00 PM	Recital Hall
Faculty Artist Recital Dr. Douglas Mark, tenor and alto trombones; Dr. Jung-Won Shin, piano	September 25	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Guest Artist Recital Guest Artist: Dr. Christopher Nichols, clarinet; Dr. Chad Payton, countertenor; Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, piano	September 26	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Art of Collaboration: Voice and Piano Guest Artist: Dr. Christopher Meerdink, tenor; Dr. Kumiko Shimizu piano	October 2	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Junior Recital: Josh Terry, tenor	October 4	1:40 PM	Recital Hall
Opera Lecture Series	October 8	6:00 PM	Recital Hall
Guest Artist Recital: Dr. Courtenay Harter, oboe	October 28	3:00 PM	Recital Hall
Woodwind Chamber Ensemble Concert	October 30	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Fall Choir Concert: Chorale and Chamber Singers	November 1	7:30 PM	Kent Wyatt Hall
Guest Artist Recital Dr. Eddie Elsey, trombone; Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, piano	November 5	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Senior Recital: Dominique Smith, soprano	November 6	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Jazz Ensemble	November 8	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
Wind Ensemble Concert	November 12	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
Low Brass Ensembles Concert	November 14	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
DSU Opera Performance	November 15	1:30 PM	Recital Hall
Guest Artist Recital: Dr. Rachel Kaplan, flute	November 15	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Opera Lecture Series	November 26	6:00 PM	Zeigel Hall, Rm. 153
Senior Recital: Johnathan Williams, baritone	November 29	1:40 PM	Recital Hall
Chorale Candlelight Concert	December 2	3:00 PM	D&PL Theatre
Opera Lecture Series	December 3	6:00 PM	Recital Hall
Percussion & Steel Drum Ensemble	December 4	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
Community Drumming and Dance Experience	December 6	7:30 PM	Jobe Auditorium
MS Delta Holiday	December 9	3:00 PM	D&PL Theatre
DSU Piano Preparatory Program	December 15	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.



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