

# Music Notes

Delta State University  
Department of Music  
Spring 2011  
Volume 8, Issue 2

## *From the Chair's Desk.....*



Another year is here and a new semester has begun once again. The anticipation of and preparations for the first day of class were abruptly interrupted by the day or so of winter weather throughout the state in mid January, which delayed the first day of class for 24 hours. Those of us who were raised in a location where snow was a more frequent occurrence than it is in the Delta might have been taken back to the excitement of waiting for and finally hearing the news that a snow day had been declared. As usual, the roadways cleared pretty quickly and classes were able to meet on the second day of the semester without too much drama. Empty dorms continued to fill and the halls on campus bustled with busy students, faculty and staff invigorated by the all too unfamiliar icy white landscape, even if the temperatures in the music facilities were a tad bit chilly.

Even though all semesters have similarities, no two are exactly alike and every class is new for the students enrolled that semester. The DSU music department expects to engage in yet another stimulating and enriching semester of music study and performance. So goes the cycle of life in education.

One of my responsibilities as interim chair has been to attend the annual conference of the National Association of Schools of Music, or NASM, which awards accreditation to collegiate music units and music degrees. The meeting was held in Boston over the weekend before the Thanksgiving holidays. I was able to become more familiar with the process of institutional self-assessment and become more aware of the common issues among university music programs. Music departments and schools around the country all have financial concerns, look for new strategies to recruit and retain music majors, struggle with finding effective ways to meet changing educational expectations, and work to foster the success and competence of their students.

I attended a couple of sessions concerning the status of music education programs. A common thread expressed was the need to update and enrich music teacher training models to better accommodate 21<sup>st</sup> century demands. Today's music teachers need to be adaptable, flexible, creative, familiar with varied repertoire and musical styles, and prepared to provide non-performance and non-traditional performance opportunities in schools. In doing so, there is a much better chance of reaching and teaching more than national average of only 10-15% of students in American high schools who are involved in music instruction. Imagine how illiterate a student body would be if only 1 in 10 teens studied English. Music study should be accessible to any student with a desire to be musical and know more about the world of music, and new music teachers need to be able to respond to those diverse musical interests of students with confidence and competence.

Since our NASM accreditation must be renewed in 2013, our department will begin examining and assessing our goals and curricula and how they intersect with the individual and collective outcomes that our students are expected to achieve in the near future. After our self-study is written, a duo of NASM evaluators will visit our department to observe faculty and students, look at our facilities, and examine our degree requirements. They will provide feedback and recommendations for the future, which will hopefully result in maintaining the accreditation that has been earned since 1973 when the department was first accredited. Although, accreditation is an intense and necessary process, it allows the faculty as a whole to determine the best ways to be responsive to the needs of our music majors and provide them with an education that will serve them in their future careers.

It's no secret that we have a full calendar of events this spring comprised of student, faculty and guest artist performances. We welcomed more than 300 talented high school students and their music teachers who came to campus to participate in the Honor Band and Honor Choir experiences. The MMTA Collegiate Competitions will be held here in March as well. In the mean time, our dynamic professors are providing outstanding and competent instruction, our students are working hard to achieve their academic and musical goals, and the department is looking forward to attracting new qualified students as music majors for the 2011-12 year. We always appreciate the support of alumni and friends of the DSU Department of Music and are grateful for any financial support that is sent our way. I wish each of you a happy and prosperous New Year!

Cordially,

Dr. Mark Butler, Professor of Music/Interim Chair

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## Faculty News

**Dr. Teri A. Herron**, Assistant Professor of Music, was contracted by Salem Press to write an article on musician Tito Puente for their upcoming volume *Great Lives in History: Latinos*.

**Dr. Douglas Mark**, Assistant Professor of Low Brass, performed as a member of the Mid-South Trombone Consort at the University of Memphis Low Brass Workshop, held February 11-12, 2011.

**Dr. Bret Pimentel**, Assistant Professor of Woodwinds, received a Co-op Press Commission Assistance grant to commission a new piece by composer Sy Brandon. The piece, *Divertissement for multiple woodwinds and piano*, features a soloist playing six woodwind instruments. Dr. Brandon will be in residence at the DSU Department of Music on Monday, February 28, and will participate in an open rehearsal and Q&A about *Divertissement*, featuring Dr. Pimentel on woodwinds and Dr. Kumiko Shimizu on piano. Dr. Pimentel also received an Instructional Technology Challenge grant, which funded the purchase of software for use in jazz courses.

**Dr. Kumiko Shimizu**, Assistant Professor of Music, was invited to co-present two sessions on operatic collaborative piano and vocal coaching at the National Opera Association Convention in January 2011.

**Dr. Jung-Won Shin**, Assistant Professor of Music, presented a guest recital with soprano Amy Yeung at Union University and held a CD signing in Martin, Tennessee in September 2010, in celebration of their CD release, *Chansons de la Nuit*, on Center Records. She also presented a piano duo recital with pianist Jungwon Anne Shin at the University of Tennessee at Martin, TN, in October 2010. This year, she serves as Chamber Music Chair of Mississippi Music Teachers Association.

**Dr. Richard Waters**, Associate Professor of Music, spent February 3-5 as a guest artist on the campus of High Point University (NC). While there, he worked with the university choirs in preparation for their March performance at Carnegie Hall and presented a lecture titled "The Roles of a Conductor" to the Beginning Conducting class. The weekend culminated with a winter concert, including the world premiere of Dr. Waters' new composition, "Give Me Your Stars To Hold," which was composed for the HPU choirs and their director, Dr. Marc Ashley Foster. Another composition, "Sleep, Sleep, Beauty Bright" (version for SSA choir), was recently selected for publication by Colla Voce Music. The piece was premiered in the fall by *Sa Belle Chant* from Hernando Middle School, under the direction of DSU alumnus J. Reese Norris. Dr. Waters will direct The Mississippi Chorus, the Mississippi Boychoir, and the Holmes Community College Choir in a performance of Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana" on Saturday, April 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Ridgeland High School Auditorium.

**Dr. John Wojcik**, Associate Professor of Music, served as a judge for the Mississippi Region II State Marching Festival at Grenada on Saturday, October 9.

### ***BECOME A FRIEND OF THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT***

*We gladly accept donations from our friends and alumni to assist with our many goals and activities. Any amount is greatly appreciated.*

**To make a gift, please send a check directly to the DSU Music Department, or to the Delta State University Foundation, Inc.** indicating that you wish to designate your gift to the Department of Music account.

**To make a gift online by credit card**, go to: <http://www.deltastate.edu/pages/181.asp> to link to a payment form to complete. **In the Comments box**, please indicate clearly that you are giving to the Department of Music.

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**Send to:** Department of Music, Delta State University, P.O. Box 3625, Cleveland, MS 38733

**OR** Delta State University Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 3141, Cleveland, MS 38733.

For more information call the music department at 662-846-4615 or the foundation at 662-846-4704.

***You help to create a legacy when you give towards the future.....***

### DSU HOSTS ANNUAL HONOR CHOIR FESTIVAL

Over 150 talented high school singers from across Mississippi gathered on the Delta State University campus for the annual Honor Choir festival on February 11-13. This year's guest conductor was Jeffery Redding. Mr. Redding has conducted numerous all-state choirs throughout the country, including the High School Honor Choir at the ACDA National Convention. Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, Assistant Professor of Piano at DSU, served as the accompanist. The weekend concluded with a well-received performance at the Bologna Performing Arts Center. Thanks to all who participated!

### CHOIRS TO RELEASE SIXTH CD RECORDING

The choral program will release their sixth compact disc – "O Sing Joyfully" – in April 2011. Recorded by the DSU Chorale, the CD will include music by a wide variety of composers, including Eric Barnum, Johannes Brahms, Ola Gjeilo, Moses Hogan, Morten Lauridsen, Steven Sametz, Richard Waters, and Eric Whitacre. The choir is accompanied on several pieces by Dr. Kumiko Shimizu. The CD features several pieces from two recording sessions in Kent Wyatt Hall, as well as other selections recorded live in concert in 2010 and 2011. The cost of the CD is \$15; cash and checks are accepted. Copies are available at all DSU choir concerts, or may be ordered online at <http://choirs.deltastate.edu>.

### CHORALE INVITED TO PERFORM AT CONFERENCE

The DSU Chorale has been selected to perform at the 2011 ACDA/MMEA state conference in Jackson. One of four choirs throughout Mississippi invited to perform, the Chorale will sing at the Opening Session on Thursday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m. at Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church.

### SPRING CHOIR CONCERT

The Chamber Singers, Chorale, and Delta Singers, will present their spring concert on Thursday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Cleveland. The concert will feature music by J. S. Bach, David Conte, William Dawson, G. F. Handel, Herbert Howells, Moses Hogan, Joseph Martin, Stephen Paulus, and others. The concert is free and open to the public. Thank you for supporting our choirs!

*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

## Delta State Opera

For the first time in over 25 years, the DSU Opera will present "A Broadway Musical Revue". Solos, duets and chorus show-stoppers from well-known Broadway musicals will grace the stage of Jobe auditorium. New musicals as well as those with familiar tunes will be woven into a night of musical pleasure. The venue of Jobe auditorium is the perfect place to showcase the revue. So mark your calendar now – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, 2011. You will be glad you attended!

### VOCAL STUDENTS EXCEL

In January 2011, Lindsey Roy and Dominique Smith, vocal performance majors from Greenville, participated in "ExtraVOIXganza - Celebrating the Vocal" Arts in Jackson. The week-long event, sponsored by Mississippi Opera and Millsaps College, offered master classes, workshops and stellar concerts which emphasized the art of singing. Roy and Smith were chosen to perform on a master class conducted by famed operatic soprano Benita Valente. These women represented Delta State well with their exceptional presentations. Roy and Smith are from the applied studio of Dr. Mary Lenn Buchanan.

### METROPOLITAN OPERA AUDITIONS AT DSU

Dr. Mary Lenn Buchanan, Professor of Music and Dr. Mark Butler, Professor of Music and Interim Chair, continue to serve as co-directors of the MS/West TN district auditions for the Metropolitan Opera National Council. These scholarship auditions provide a place for semi-professional singers to showcase their talents, be heard by professionals in the field of operatic performance, and advance to the final performances in New York. The auditions began in North MS over 40 years ago with the vision of the late Keith Dockery McClain of Dockery. They are held in early January at the Bologna Performing Arts Center. The backbone of these auditions is the many volunteers and supporters who work diligently to ensure that these auditions are successful. We urge anyone who has an interest in the field of opera, or who just loves beautiful singing, to consider adding their input and talent to help continue this long-standing tradition in the Delta and at Delta State.

### 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. Audition dates are below. Additional dates can be set up by appointment. Contact Dr. John Wojcik (662-846-4629) or Dr. Richard Waters (662-846-4115) for more information.

Friday, February 18, 2011; 10:00 am

Friday, March 25, 2011; 10:00 am

Friday, April 15, 2011; 10:00 am

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

<http://music.deltastate.edu>

## Our Alumni Report...

**Matt Walker (BME, 2006)**, was recently appointed to the position of Assistant Band Director at Clinton High School in Clinton, MS. He directs the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade bands and teaches all the low brass students. Matt is currently pursuing a Master of Music Education degree at University of Southern Mississippi. He and his wife Whitney are expecting their first child in May 2011.

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

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

*We would love hearing from you!!!*

## Calling All Alumni!!!!!!

### DEADLINE EXTENDED!

#### 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, 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 11, 2011.

### DSU JAZZ BAND TO PERFORM THIRD ANNUAL BIG BAND BASH

The DSU Jazz Ensemble's third annual Big Band Bash will be held at Cleveland hotspot The Warehouse, on Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6:30pm. Fans of that big band sound can dance or just sit and tap their toes, and enjoy fare from a special Warehouse menu. The band will be directed by Dr. Bret Pimentel and will feature special guests including local favorite Dr. Paul Hankins on trumpet. Black tie optional. Tickets are \$20 (tax deductible) and are available from Varner Brothers on Cotton Row or from the Department of Music. Proceeds from ticket sales benefit the DSU jazz program.



### THE DELTA STATE HOLIDAY LOW BRASS TROUPE SPREADS HOLIDAY CHEER...

This past December, members of the DSU low brass studio participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> annual DSU Low Brass Holiday Troupe. Under the direction of Dr. Douglas Mark, Assistant Professor of Low Brass, the ensemble performed at several locations on the DSU campus and throughout the Cleveland community. Members of the group included Ben Boyd, Nick Comfort, Eric Edwards, Trey Mathes, David Mason, and Brian Thomson.





## DSU Saxophone Students Successful at Fall MTNA Competitions

Student saxophonists Steven Hugley and Austin White were awarded “alternate” and “honorable mention,” respectively, in the Young Artist division of the Music Teachers National Association competition in November. These awards are equivalent to second and third place at the state level. With Will Bryer and David Stafford, Mr. Hugley and Mr. White also competed as a saxophone quartet in the chamber music category.



## Art of the Piano Returns to Delta State

*The Art of the Piano* was held on Saturday, February 19, 2011 at the Bologna Performing Arts Center and Zeigel Hall. The purpose of this event was to bring pianists, from beginners through career pianists, together to explore the art of playing the piano. This event was open to all piano students and teachers.

*The Art of the Piano* presented recitals, master classes and workshops. The faculty of the event included Guest Artists Kenneth Boulton and JoAnne Barry, DSU Visiting Professor of Humanities Bruce Levingston, and DSU Piano Faculty Karen Fosheim, Kumiko Shimizu, and Jung-Won Shin. One of the highlights of the event was the piano ensemble recital by the guest artists, which offered the audience a variety of piano ensemble repertoire.

*The Art of the Piano* was partially funded by a generous donation from the Dulce Fund.

## Delta State University Band Activities

The DSU Marching Band had a busy fall. The Pride marched in exhibition on September 18 at the Briarcrest High School Marching Contest in Memphis. The band also hosted the second annual Band Day on October 16, attended by fifty-five students from around Mississippi. The Pride marched in the Cleveland Christmas Parade on December 2. On December 3, the ‘Fighting Okra Band performed in concert at the Roy Martin Band Festival in Greenwood, MS and marched in the festival’s Christmas Parade. The season culminated by performing at the Division II National Championship Football Game held in Florence, AL.

The Annual Honor Band Clinic was held on January 20-22 with 125 students from 30 Mississippi schools attending.

This year’s clinician was renowned composer David Shaffer, Professor Emeritus from Miami University-Ohio.

The Wind Ensemble is busy preparing for their spring tour which will take place on March 8 and 9. This year the ensemble will head south to perform at Meridian High School. Further sites are yet to be announced. The Wind Ensemble will conclude its tour with a performance at the Bologna Performing Arts Center on the Delta State campus at 7:30 p.m. on March 10.

The final concert of the year will be shared with the Symphonic Band on April 26.

## MUSIC EVENTS

**Guest Artist:** Jill Felber, flute & Diane Frazer, piano

**Senior Recital:** Katie Gibson, mezzo-soprano

**Black History Month Celebration:** DSU Chorale

**Art of the Piano:** Guest Artist: Kenneth Boulton & Jo Anne Barry, piano duo

**Art of the Piano**

**Guest Artist:** Dr. Leonard Garrison, flute

Dr. Shelley Collins, flute & Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, piano

~~February 4 7:30 PM~~  
 POSTPONED TO LATER DATE DUE TO WEATHER  
 February 10 1:40 PM  
 February 17 7:00 PM  
 February 18 7:30 PM  
 February 19 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM  
 February 22 7:30 PM

Recital Hall

Recital Hall

B.B. King Museum, Indianola, MS

Recital Hall

BPAC & Zeigel Hall

Recital Hall

Music Events Calendar continues on page 6

## MUSIC EVENTS

<b>Jazz Ensemble: Big Band Bash</b>	February 19	6:30 PM	The Warehouse, Cleveland, MS
<b>DSU Steel Band Concert</b>	February 20	3:00 PM	St. James' Episcopal Church, Greenville, MS
<b>Guest Composer Residency:</b> Dr. Sy Brandon	February 28	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Zeigel Hall
<b>MS Music Teachers Association Competitions</b>	March 5		D&PL Theatre
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> Dr. Larry Bradford, percussion	March 7	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> Dr. Karen Fosheim, piano	March 8	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Wind Ensemble Concert</b>	March 10	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Guest Artist:</b> Lisa Yui, piano	March 21	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Master Class:</b> Lisa Yui, piano	March 22	11:00 AM	Recital Hall
<b>Senior Recital:</b> Lindsey Roy, mezzo-soprano	March 22	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> Dr. Shelley Collins, flute	March 24	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Dr. Keith Pettway, flute & Dr. Kumiko Shimizu, piano			
<b>DSU Opera Production</b>	March 29	7:30 PM	Jobe Performing Hall
<b>Guest Artist:</b> Ron Barron, trombone (retired, Boston Symphony Orchestra)	April 4	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Choral Evensong:</b> Chamber Singers	April 5	6:00 PM	Calvary Episcopal Church, Cleveland
<b>Jazz Ensemble Concert</b>	April 7	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> "Just Desserts", Dr. Teri Herron, soprano	April 11	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
Dr. Jung-Won Shin, piano			
<b>Brass Ensembles Concert</b>	April 14	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Faculty Recital:</b> <i>Musique à Trois:</i>	April 17	3:00 PM	Recital Hall
<i>Afternoon of works for violin, viola and piano</i>			
Anne Gaëlle Ravetto, violin, Joseph Pagán, viola & Dr. Karen Fosheim, piano			
<b>Choral Evensong:</b> Chamber Singers	April 17	5:00 PM	St. James' Episcopal Church, Greenville, MS
<b>Honors Recital</b>	April 18	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Percussion Ensemble &amp; Steel Band Concert</b>	April 19	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Woodwind Chamber Ensemble Concert</b>	April 20	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Junior Recital:</b> Brian Thomson, trombone	April 21	1:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Senior Recital:</b> Latoya Calhoun, mezzo-soprano & Jessica Taylor, piano	April 21	1:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Senior Capstone Recital:</b> Gene Kachenovich, composer	April 25	7:30 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Symphonic Band &amp; Wind Ensemble Concert</b>	April 26	7:30 PM	D&PL Theatre
<b>Senior Recital:</b> Clarence Johnson, piano	April 28	1:40 PM	Recital Hall
<b>Spring Choir Concert</b>	April 28	7:30 PM	First United Methodist, Cleveland, MS
<b>Piano Preparatory Program Recital</b>	May 8	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.

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