Bravo: Music with Psychology

Fulbright scholar at ISU combines music with clinical psychology
Remembering Barry Larkin
The man who made percussion come alive at ISU passed away.

Singing to rave reviews
The Iowa State Singers, Cantamus invited to prestigious conference; Singers wow them at national meeting.

Bravo for psychology and music
Fulbright scholar Fernando Bravo is combining psychology, composition and sound design in his visit to ISU.

Keys to the technology side
The keyboard studio offers students and faculty technologies for learning.

New faculty making their marks
Three new faculty members bring a wealth of talent and expertise to the Music Department.
Greetings from the Chair

On behalf of the Iowa State University Department of Music & Theatre, I want to welcome you to this issue of The Score. We are justifiably proud of the accomplishments of our program, and know that you look forward to keeping up with your alma mater and former classmates.

You may have noticed that our name has changed. We are now, officially, the Department of Music AND Theatre. Although we have been operating under that premise for many years, not until recently has the Theatre name been featured so prominently. We are proud to be paired with Theatre, not only in name but also in numerous collaborations and productions that we share throughout the year.

For the next several years, beginning with this semester, we are facing tighter than ever budget issues that are having a significant impact on our offerings and our day-to-day operations. Changes are inevitable, but our commitment to the highest standards of teaching and performing music remains as strong as ever. I want to assure you of that.

I also want to thank the many loyal alumni and dedicated friends who have contributed to our department this year. Many of our successes and our programs would not have been possible without your generous support. Even in a climate of economic uncertainty, a truly bright spot is the impact of individual gifts, as they motivate our faculty, staff and students to achieve the highest levels of musical excellence.

In spite of these severe budget cuts, we continue to attract highly talented students to our program. In fact, our number of music majors is at a record high. We continue to work hard to recruit the best students possible and to provide them with a first-rate degree program.

We have had numerous successes this past semester, one of the high points being the opera Sweeney Todd that was produced by our opera studio, under the direction of Mary Creswell. This was a collaborative production, directed by Theatre faculty member Brad Dell, and the orchestra was led by our new director Jacob Harrison. In all ways it was a superb production and reflective of the talents of our students and faculty within the Department of Music and Theatre.

I hope that you enjoy this edition of The Score and find yourself newly inspired by the accomplishments of the faculty and students of the Department of Music & Theatre.

Please visit us at any time, take advantage of our hundreds of public events throughout the year, and generously share your concerns and suggestions with us.

With gratitude and all best wishes,

Michael Golemo, Chair
Department of Music & Theatre

“Changes are inevitable, but our commitment to the highest standards of teaching and performing music remains as strong as ever.”
Barry Larkin, Associate Professor of Percussion at Iowa State University, passed away at his home on May 28, 2009. Barry was an outstanding percussionist, an inspirational teacher, and was tremendously dedicated to his students.

Barry was seemingly involved with anything percussive – and more. He was principal percussionist with the Des Moines Symphony, coached the Cyclone Marching Band Drumline, was “first-call” percussionist for all broadway-style shows in Des Moines, conductor of the ISU Percussion Ensemble, timpanist with the Ames Municipal Band, advisor to GROOVE indoor percussion ensemble – as well as advisor to the ISU Juggling and Unicycle Clubs, teacher and mentor to hundreds of percussionists, and proud father of his beautiful and talented daughter, Stephanie.

Barry had a superb sense of humor. He always had a joke or a quip and he made Music Hall a brighter place. Barry’s dad was a joke writer for Bob Hope and others in Hollywood, and Barry certainly inherited the laugh-gene from his father. He could quote lines from a variety of comedies, especially the “Airplane” films (“Surely you can’t be serious?” “I am serious, and don’t call me Shirley.”)

As humorous as Barry was, he took music-making very seriously. He had high expectations for his students and getting an “A” from Barry was rare. He knew what it takes to succeed in the musical world. Most of Barry’s students and faculty colleagues had no idea how hard Barry worked to stay at the top of his game. He regularly practiced long hours upstairs at his home, and kept very detailed records of his practice sessions. During the past few years, Barry would occasionally take percussion lessons with the big names in the percussion world – seemingly for himself, but likely more for the latest educational techniques that he could pass on to his students. Barry wanted to be the best possible teacher for his students.

Barry was a fixture at Music Hall (he lived very close to campus). If you showed up to Music Hall on a Saturday morning at 6:00 am, you would likely see Barry already in the building, perhaps preparing for lessons, working on repairing a percussion instrument, or perhaps doing some research for another article on the acoustics of percussion instruments.

Barry taught at Iowa State for 18 years, and he now rests in the ISU Cemetery, which is directly adjacent to the Marching Band practice field on the northwest end of campus. We’re sure that Barry continues to watch over the drumline during Marching Band rehearsals.

Music Hall is just a bit dimmer without Barry. He is greatly missed by us all.

In Remembrance, Barry Larkin 1954 – 2009

Ames Children’s Theater
Joshua Barlage
Elaine & John Bath
Rachel & Peter Beardsley
Stephen & Jennifer Bloomberg
Alice Bodnar
Kenneth & Kristy Bryden
Gar & Sue Chatterton
Christopher & Helen Colvin
Scott & Lisa Lorenzen Dahl
Stanton & Deborah Danielson
Martin Deaton P. Deaton
Dee Dreeszen
Richard & Sarah Davis Early
Mary & Charles Egeland
Rodney & Heidi Foster
Michael Geary
Randall & Michele Gehring
David & Carole Gieseke
Randall & Lori Good
Donald L. Good, D.D.S.
P.W. & Vickie Hartung
Sue Ellen Haug
Steven & Colette Hill
Randy Hogancamp & Jane Whitehead
David & Marilyn Holmes
Jack & Carol Horowitz
Maureen Hurd Hause & Evan Hause
Irimi’s Recorder Studio
Norman E. & Caroline P. Jackson

Andrew & Sandra Jensen
Nathan & Sherida Josephson
Kappa Kappa Psi/Tau Beta Sigma
Anne Marie Kern
Stacie Kluver
Tammy & Danny Krock
Jane Lawler
Susan & Steven Lekwa
Rosemary Lloyd-Cameron & Thomas Cameron
Thomas & Miriam Mackey
Douglass & Wanda McCay
McCoys Music Center For Richard & Donita McCoy
Sandra Moore-Wacha & Richard Wacha
Terry & Elizabeth Morse
Mark & Susan Skinner
Jerry & Mary Nelson
Steve & Debbie Neve
Steven & Vicki Niebuhr
Steve & Dalene O’Brien
Susan Odem
Marcie Osmundson
Young & Helen Park
Carl & Renea Peters
Mary & David Peterson
Aidy & Mindy Phomvisay
Lois J. Pierson
Wade & Theresa Presley
Willis Rapp
Walter & Nancy Reed

Charlotte Richter
Robert & Dorothy Rust
Sabian Ltd.
Krysal Schrader
Brandon Schumacher
Richard & Jasmine Seagrave
William & Catherine Simpkins
Matthew & Melissa Smith
Pauline Smith
Stephen Smith
Jennifer Sobotka
Daniel & Elizabeth Solomon
Shirley Straffon
Jonathan & Julie Sturm
Richard & Lu Ann Suarez
Paul Tanaka & Peggy Earnshaw
Sandra & Robert Tatge
Lynne & Lois Theesfield
Jacob Thieben
Lynne Thieben Piano Studio
May Tsao-Lim
Steve Weiss Music
West Music Company, Inc.
Joyce Wheeler & James Christiansen
Shawn & Lisa Wood
George Work & Dawn Work-MaKinne
Allan & Beverly Yeager
Suzanne Zaffarano
Lynn Zeigler
Iowa State Singers performed at ACDA National Convention

The Iowa State Singers performed for approximately 3,000 choral conductors from across the country March 5, 2009 at the ACDA national convention at the Oklahoma City Civic Center Music Hall.

“It was amazing to give performances for the biggest names in choral music. In my four years with the Iowa State Singers, I have never been so proud,” said Jordan Smellie, one of the choir’s music majors.

American choirs are permitted to perform at ACDA national conventions at most, once every four years. “We were very fortunate to be asked to sing in Los Angeles in 2005 and again in 2009,” said James Rodde, Moen Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities.

“When the national panel of conductors selected the Singers from out of over seventy collegiate applicants, I felt both honored and humbled.”

The Singers, one of only four collegiate mixed choirs invited to perform, sang its 30-minute concert twice for both tracks of the convention. The performance featured traditional works by Herbert Howells and Charles Stanford, an original spiritual by Pulitzer-Prize winning composer Dominick Argento, and three unknown works, all composed in 2008, by Ko Matsushita (Japan), Dobrinka Tabakova (Bulgaria), and Eric Barnum (USA). The choir was deeply gratified to receive standing ovations at both performances.

Dominick Argento described the Singers’ performance of his composition, *So, I’ll Sing with My Voice*, as an exceptionally fine performance, noting that it was “very spirited and colorful.”

Eric Barnum’s new composition, *The Sounding Sea*, was commissioned by Iowa State this past summer. Prior to the performance the choir had the opportunity to meet Mr. Barnum and hear his insights into his new work. On hearing the Singers perform his piece, he remarked, “This is the choir I wish I could work with every day!” In a note to Iowa State after the convention he wrote, “I cannot imagine a more fulfilling creation experience than this opportunity working with Dr. Rodde and the Iowa State Singers. What an absolute honor for me to work with people who are not only sophisticated musicians, but also have such wonderful hearts.”

Students shared their feelings after the experience. Freshman Kaitlin Redmond, an Elementary Education major, commented, “I’ve never felt that type of adrenaline as I did after and during our performances. It will be one of those things in my life I will never forget.”

Iowa State Singers, Cantamus Women’s Choir have been invited to perform at the North Central ACDA Divisional Convention, to be held in Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis. The Singers, under the direction of James Rodde, will sing at 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, and Cantamus, under the direction of Kathleen Rodde, will sing at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 5.

The Iowa State Singers and Cantamus Women’s Choir have been invited to perform at the North Central ACDA Divisional Convention, to be held in Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis. The Singers, under the direction of James Rodde, will sing at 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, and Cantamus, under the direction of Kathleen Rodde, will sing at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 5.

1,000 choral enthusiasts, most of them choral conductors, are expected to be in the audience.

To be selected for a performance at an ACDA convention, a choir must submit sample recordings from its past three years. The selections are listened to “blindly” by a committee of recognized conductors. It is a highly competitive process. The ISU choirs are two of seven collegiate choirs invited to the four-day event.

“I am thrilled that our students will have the opportunity to sing in Orchestra Hall, one of the finest performance venues in the country. And, they will have an appreciative and supportive audience,” said James Rodde, Director of Choral Activities.

The Singers’ program will include pieces by a variety of composers from Czechoslovakia, Hungary, England, and two from the United States, both with Minnesota roots: Eric Barnum and Carol Barnett.

Cantamus last sang at an ACDA divisional convention in 2004. They will sing music of international composers and present two premieres, one by Minnesota composer Abbie Betinis and another, a setting of *How Can I Keep From Singing* by Nathaniel Adams.

Prior to their performances at Orchestra Hall, the two choirs will share a performance of their convention program at Normandale Lutheran Church, Edina, Minn., on Wednesday, March 3, at 8 p.m.
Ames Children’s Choirs hosts Midwest Children’s Choir Festival

The Ames Children’s Choirs (ACC) program, conducted by Sylvia Munsen, sponsored the 2009 Midwest Children’s Choir Festival at Stephens Auditorium. The MCCF Mass Choir premiered *For the Beauty of the Earth* by René Clausen, a new work commissioned by ACC for the festival. Clausen conducted the premier of his work in addition to conducting a master class with the ACC Concert Choir.

Iowa State students serve as ACC apprentices and had the opportunity to attend the master class, the MCCF Mass Choir rehearsal, a reception for Dr. Clausen and a special session regarding composition. Featured choirs at the festival included Allegro Con Moto of the Allegro Community Children’s Choir from Kansas City, the Bentonville Children’s Choir from Arkansas, and the ACC Concert Choir. Select singers in grades 5-7 from across the state joined those choirs to form the 400-voice MCCF Mass Choir.

Ames Piano Quartet released set of recordings from past years

The Ames Piano Quartet, resident chamber music group at Iowa State University, served as the ensemble-in-residence at the Colours of Music Festival in Barrie, Ontario, Canada in September.

The 10-day event featured musicians from both the United States and Canada. The Quartet performed in three concerts with other performers, as well as performing its own concert during a busy four days, Sept. 25-28. Members of the Ames Piano Quartet are William David, piano; Mahlon Darlington, violin; Jonathan Sturm, viola; and George Work, cello.

This season the Ames Piano Quartet will also perform in Wichita, Kan.; Utica, N.Y; Batesville, Ark.; London, Ontario; and in Mount Pleasant and Forest City, Iowa.

In September, Dorian Recordings released an eight-CD boxed set of recordings it has made for the company during the past 20 years. The box includes the Quartet’s first recording made in 1988, containing works by Saint-Saëns and Chausson. The CD has been remastered to enhance its audio quality.

The Ames Piano Quartet has also recorded four CDs available on the Albany Label. All of the APQ’s compact discs are available from members of the Quartet. The price of the new boxed set is $50. The CDs can also be purchased from web retailers, such as Amazon.com, or from the iTunes Store.

The Department of Music & Theatre presented music alumni Randy Compton and Alan Spohnheimer each with an Award for Exemplary Service at the fall Fanfare Concert. Compton (second from right) was the music librarian for WOI-Radio for more than 25 years. He also has served as the producer for the ISU Madrigal Dinners since 1995, and has been a member of the music advisory committee since 1992. Spohnheimer (second from left) was director of instrumental music at South Hamilton High School, where he worked for over 30 years. He is also a member of the advisory committee, a charter member of Musica Antiqua and serves as that ensemble’s historian and webmaster. Also pictured are Michael Golemo (left) professor and department chair, and Jeff Prater, professor and awards committee chair.
More than 300 members, staff and directors of the “Cyclone” marching band departed Ames for a long bus ride to Tempe, Ariz., for the New Year’s Eve Insight Bowl football game against the University of Minnesota. The marching band, led by Dr. Matthew Smith, performed at both pregame and halftime to a crowd of more than 45,000, and also performed at several pep rallies.

“This was a wonderful opportunity for our students,” said Smith. “The Insight Bowl was one of the best-planned bowl events I have experienced. I am very proud of our students, who represented us extremely well, and we are looking forward to building off of this success for our band.”

The Cyclones won the game, 14-13.

At the December 6 Holiday Concert, the Department of Music & Theatre presented its Outstanding Alumnus Award to Wayne Tigges. Tigges also served as a vocal soloist for the concert. Originally from Dubuque, Tigges received his Bachelor of Music in vocal performance degree from Iowa State in 1996 and was a voice student of Dr. Donald Simonson.

Tigges, a bass-baritone, has performed major roles with the Metropolitan Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Opera National de Paris, Cincinnati Opera, Opera Omaha and many others. Additionally, he has appeared as soloist with the Chicago Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra and at numerous prestigious venues.

“I was very fortunate to have studied at Iowa State University with Dr. Simonson,” said Tigges. “I received a wonderful foundation and I am indebted to the all of my teachers at Iowa State who have helped me succeed.”

Wayne Tigges, bass-baritone, receives Outstanding Alumnus Award

An estate gift from Donald and Trudy Budlong will benefit students in two departments at Iowa State University. The endowment is expected to provide about $50,000 each year in scholarships for students in ISU’s departments of music and animal science.

“The Budlongs’ generosity and commitment to music and Iowa State University is truly remarkable. They want to help students who are finding it financially difficult to continue with their music studies without additional support,” said Michael Golemo, chair of ISU’s Department of Music.

Donald Budlong, a 1949 graduate in animal husbandry from Iowa State, was raised on a farm near Titonka, Iowa, a community that his grandfather helped to found. Trudy Budlong is a native of Florida. She taught music in Florida, Nebraska and Woden, Iowa, and was a choir director in her church for 16 years. She and her husband are members of the W.M. Beardshear Society, Iowa State’s most prestigious giving society for donors whose lifetime gifts total $1 million or more.

Estate Gift by Titonka couple establishes new scholarships

Ben Kane, a music education major, has been a member of the Blue Devils Drum & Bugle Corps the past two summers. The Blue Devils, based in Concord, Calif., were the 2009 Drum Corps International (DCI) World Champions, finishing with an undefeated season. At ISU, Ben has performed with the Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble and the “Cyclone” Marching Band. He is a trumpet student of James Bovinette.

From left, department chair Michael Golemo, Wayne Tigges and Donald Simonson.
Fulbright scholar Fernando Bravo has a special motivation behind his graduate studies in music composition and technology at Iowa State — clinical psychology.

Bravo is taking a break from his career as a practicing psychologist in Buenos Aires to pursue interdisciplinary research that combines psychology, musical composition, sound design, and multimedia. His goal is to design multimedia applications for the treatment of severe psychopathological disorders.

“The ultimate purpose of the project,” says Bravo, “is to design an interactive audiovisual environment to analyze the non-verbal mechanisms involved in complex emotional responses. I specifically would like to examine closely what new content can be brought into visual stimuli by the use of sound and music, to augment the potential emotional expressiveness of images in film. To put it differently, I would like to analyze how different relations between sound and image can move the audience emotionally and create a special feeling in the non-verbal sequence.”

Bravo brings his musical experience as a classical guitarist and composer to his research. He holds a degree in music from the Higher Music Conservatory “Manuel de Falla” with further study at the Universidad Católica Argentina in Buenos Aires and has already composed scores for short films.

He also has prior experience in interdisciplinary research. In 2001 he was awarded a special training position at Ignacio Pirovano Hospital to work in the integration of psychology and music for children suffering from psychosis and autism.

“It was here where I began to work in the integration of
psychology, music, and multimedia,” Bravo recalls. “Because of my knowledge in music composition, I was responsible for the organization and presentation of music workshops. There, children suffering from psychosis and autism enjoyed improved social interaction among their peers. Their cognitive skills also showed improvement.”

Bravo’s research interests later advanced within the Research Program of the Department of Psychology at the Universidad Católica Argentina, where he also taught courses in Personality Psychology, Adult Psychology, Adolescent Psychology, and Deep Psychology. “I did research in early detection of severe psychopathology in school age children, and gave seminars for psychopathology detection during kindergarten and primary school.”

Bravo calls his search for an interdisciplinary degree program focused on the arts and digital media an “inevitable decision. Four years ago, I found myself in a particular position. I was working as a clinical psychologist and managing to continue research even though the technology resources were relatively scarce. My study of music in a multimedia context was somewhat ‘strange’ for most people, and honestly, people usually close their ears to these ideas. However, there were also many who encouraged me, which finally prompted me to apply to the Fulbright Program. I had so much passion for this project that I simply did not want to give up.”

After being awarded the Fulbright to study in the United States, Bravo researched interdisciplinary programs and found the Interdisciplinary Electronic Arts cluster within the Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies (IGS) program at Iowa State. Asked about his choice, Bravo relates “I was admitted to various universities, but many reasons made me choose the program at ISU. ISU is a renowned technology and research oriented university, and because electronic arts is an interdisciplinary field itself, where artists often collaborate with scientists and engineers, I thought that ISU could be the right place to develop my thesis. Also, it was significant to me that the program was developed by a composer.”

Christopher Hopkins, associate professor of music, established this area of graduate study in 2007, but this is the first year students have been accepted. “Before this my graduate advisees all have been in the Human-Computer Interaction program, which is also an interdepartmental program with an interdisciplinary focus. Unlike HCI, where applicants typically have a background in just one discipline and are using the program to expand their focus, the interdisciplinary electronic arts cluster in IGS requires that students already have a background in two to three areas of study. This restricts the number of qualified applicants. Because Fernando has degrees already in both music and psychology, and comes in with clearly defined research goals, he represents the ideal IGS student. He has been able to begin the integration of ideas and methods from different disciplines from the outset, and we are able to direct his advanced studies of digital media directly to his thesis.”

Although no graduate major in music is available at Iowa State, there are courses for graduate credit in composition and music technology. Bravo is studying electronic music and composition with Dr. Hopkins, who finds teaching an IGS student to be a unique experience. “Composition lessons with Fernando are different in that the creation of music is not an end in itself. There is an interdisciplinary goal, and we need to find the concepts and methods to make this happen. We explore theory to a higher degree, and work with abstractions that support metaphor with some systematic control. Because Fernando’s research specifically targets the emotive effects of music, we are working with analysis of sonority and rhythm in a very detailed way. These musical attributes run under the conscious experience for the vast majority of listeners, whose focus is mainly on melody, harmony, simple rhythms, and in the case of vocal music, the text.”

Bravo’s program of study includes courses in the department of art and design, where he is learning 3D modeling, texturing, and animation techniques, and from the HCI program courses in statistical methods and experimental design.

Asked about his experiences at ISU so far, he says “I am very glad to be here, the program of study completely meets my expectations. I believe that the whole social and academic environment at ISU is just a very rich soil for ideas to live and bear fruit.”
Department unveils high-tech keyboard lab

This is not your parents’ piano studio.

The keyboard lab in the lower level of Music Hall features the latest technology for group instruction, giving faculty the ability to individually work with multiple students while demonstrating technique and music notation on a high definition video projector.

Keyboard studios like ISU’s are becoming the norm on college campuses, said Mason Conklin, a lecturer on the keyboard faculty. Most, however, don’t sport an overhead camera that shows the instructor’s hands at the keyboard on a wall screen. As Conklin plays, students can see his fingers on the keys.

The ISU keyboard studio features 14 digital pianos (plus the instructor’s). It also has software to show notes and chords on a wall screen as they are played, and has a smart board, which is basically a computerized blackboard. Instructors even have the ability to easily post electronic class notes and score annotations online so students can access that content after class.

Conklin has also used the equipment to create short instructional videos which students can view online and on video enabled iPods or iPhones.

“It’s been very good for teaching healthy keyboard techniques,” he said.

Conklin can listen via headphones to each of the 14 Yamaha Clavinova pianos in the lab using the console at his keyboard. He can talk to any student and provide instruction on his keyboard – all the while other students busily play their own pianos (the music is only heard through headphones).

“I can listen to what the student is playing, give feedback and provide instruction,” Conklin explained.

He also can group students so he can listen to and provide feedback to duets and four-keyboard ensembles, for example.

The ISU piano studio is a mainstay for many music majors, all of whom must achieve keyboard proficiency. Typically those students are freshmen and sophomores, but piano majors also use it. And the studio stays busy, too, with most sections of the keyboard courses having at least a dozen students.

Conklin said the use of electronic keyboards and headphones became common in college labs during the 1970s. As technology advanced, more innovations appeared. It’s a far cry from the 1930s and 40s when a keyboard lab may have sported one piano forcing other students to “practice” on paper mache keyboards.

“The Classroom Maestro software connects my piano to the music,” Conklin said. “When I play a key, it lights up the staff.”

The program also analyzes and shows chords and gives jazz notations as well as Roman numeral analysis. “It’s an easy way to ensure all the students are on the same page,” he added.

“All of this equipment makes the nontraditional content delivery possible.” sj
New life for a family’s jazz legacy

In the late 1930s and early ‘40s, a band called the Hable Orchestra—saxophone, piano, trumpet, drums, and trombones—warmed up the jazz scene in the small towns of western Wisconsin. The band’s musicians were all members of the Hable family, including Frank the founder and arranger, and his wife Mona, once a pianist for the silent movies.

Fast-forward 70 years. The Hable family farm in Bloomer, Wis., was up for sale, and family members found Frank’s old trombone when they were cleaning the attic. Not just any trombone, it was a classic, silver Holton trombone, the bell made in 1909 and the slide in 1917. But the old instrument was in disrepair, and with little hope that it would ever be played again, the Hable family passed it down to Burton Hable, that fourth-generation music man, who was earning his degree at Iowa State.

Burton knew he had something special. With a clear sense that his family’s musical legacy was an important part of who he was, Burton found an expert who repaired the old trombone.

For the jazz portion of his senior recital, performed March 29, 2009, he announced to the audience that he was playing the instrument that his great, great uncle had once used to warm the hearts of Wisconsin jazz lovers.

Student News

Emma Smith, a senior from Muscatine, and Michael Bagby, a sophomore from Dubuque, finished second and third in the Music Teachers Association Young Artist Piano Auditions held in October at Grinnell. Both are students of William David.

Music student Jesse Donner is the first recipient of the Carol Johnson Music Scholarship at Iowa State. Donner, pictured with Johnson, is a vocal major from Urbandale and studies with Mary Creswell.

Jeffrey Schmitt, a music education major from Hampton, is with conductor Col. John Bourgeois, USMC ret. (left), and composer Mark Camphouse. Schmitt performed as a member of the Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma National Intercollegiate Band, which had its concert in July in Phoenix, Ariz. Bourgeois served for 17 years as the conductor of the “President’s Own” United States Marine Band. Camphouse served as the commissioned composer for the concert.
Music’s new faculty bring wealth of expertise to campus

Matthew Coley
Matthew Coley joins the Iowa State music faculty this fall as Lecturer in Percussion. He performs professionally on marimba, percussion and dulcimer. Coley holds degrees from Northwestern University and the University of North Texas. He performs regularly as a soloist throughout the U.S. and Europe, traveling annually to Chisinau, Moldova, to perform concerts, concerto premieres, and masterclasses. Matthew was featured in Time Out Chicago magazine in September, performed the U.S. premiere of Marcin Blazewicz’s Concerto Rustico for marimba and strings in August, and the World premiere of Ghenadie Ciobanu’s Breeze of the South Latitudes Marimba Concerto with the Moldavian Philharmonic Orchestra in September.

In 2010, he will perform as soloist with the Warsaw Tele-radio Symphony, finish his first solo marimba album, and return to Moldova to premiere a Cimbalom concerto and record a Marimba concerto. In 2008, Coley placed third in the prestigious 5th World Marimba Competition Stuttgart, the first American to ever place in this competition. Coley is founding artistic director of SONIC INERTIA and an active member in the percussion duo SI2 with Cory Hills. He is endorsed and published by Innovative Percussion. www.hearmatthewcoley.com.

Jodi Goble
Collaborative pianist and composer Jodi Goble comes to the Iowa State University faculty from the Boston University College of Fine Arts, where she was a vocal pianist-coach and member of the voice faculty for nine years. Goble also taught diction and song literature at the Walnut Hill School for the Performing Arts in Natick, Mass., and served for three years as the primary rehearsal pianist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s Tanglewood Festival Chorus. Goble’s opera and music theatre credits include work with The Boston Conservatory, the Footlight Club, Stage One, Actor’s Collaborative, Berkshire Opera, and the Metropolitan Opera Guild. A sought-after collaborative artist in Boston, she has performed at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Harvard Musical Association, the Tsai Center for the Performing Arts, the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, Grey House at MIT, Lowell House at Harvard, the Berkshire Museum, and Jordan Hall. She collaborates regularly with renowned operatic bass-baritone Simon Estes in recital, both locally and across the United States.

Goble holds bachelor’s degrees in violin and piano performance from Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Ill., and did her master’s study in collaborative piano and chamber music with pianist Robert Palmer at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind.

Jacob Harrison
Jacob Harrison joins the Iowa State music faculty as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Orchestral Activities. He conducts the ISU Symphony Orchestra and teaches instrumental conducting. Harrison received a Bachelor of Music degree in Trombone Performance from the University of Texas at Austin, and the degrees Master of Music Education and Doctor of Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting from Arizona State University.

In Phoenix, Harrison served as Music Director of the North Valley Chamber Orchestra and was a cover conductor for the Phoenix Symphony. Additionally, he worked with such groups as the Mill Avenue Chamber Players, the Phoenix Youth Orchestra, the Scottsdale Community Orchestra, and the Arizona Repertory Orchestra.

Harrison continues to work with many composers and has premiered numerous musical works for orchestras, wind ensembles and a wide variety of chamber ensembles. In 2007, he was appointed Resident Conductor of the Chapparal Music Festival, a new music festival in Prescott, Ariz.

Harrison is an accomplished opera and musical theater conductor. He has conducted the Arizona Lyric Opera Theatre production of Bela Bartok’s Bluebeard’s Castle and was the assistant conductor for Arizona Lyric Opera Theatre’s production of Richard Strauss’s Ariadne auf Naxos.
Faculty News

Kris Bryden presented a paper, “Using Narrative to Make Sense of Joan Towers Petroushskates” to the College Music Society National Conference in Portland, Ore. The paper explored how various attributes of narrative contribute to a greater understanding of Joan Tower’s vibrant, energetic work, Petroushskates. Narrative is a basic form of communication that allows humans to make sense of life.

Tin-Shi Tam was a guest artist at the Centralia Carillon weekend in Centralia, Ill. In the summer, she gave a carillon recital at Hyechon College in Korea. That carillon is the largest in the world with 78 bells cast by Petit & Fritsen of Aarle-Rixtel, Netherlands. The largest bell is a low E-flat, weighing over 24,000 pounds. Dr. Tam also gave an organ master class at Hyechon College, two organ workshops at the Hong Kong Cultural Center, and a recital in Hong Kong.

William David was honored by Music Teachers National Association as an MTNA Foundation Fellow at the 2009 MTNA National Conference in Atlanta. The MTNA Foundation Fellow program offers a meaningful method of recognition for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to music teaching. David has been a member of MTNA and the Iowa Music Teachers Association (IMTA) since 1972. David has served IMTA as president, state convention chair and on the board of directors. He is the editor of The Iowa Music Teacher, IMTA’s quarterly journal. David was awarded his state association’s Distinguished Service Award in 2000 and Certified Teacher of the Year Award in 2001.

Christopher Hopkins received a 2009-10 faculty fellowship from ISU’s Center for Excellence in the Arts and Humanities for The Dream Labyrinth: composition for pipe organ and adaptive virtual instruments. The award supports research and design of software-based virtual pipe organs in collaboration with recording artist Gary Verkade. Dr. Hopkins’ research with Kenneth Mark Bryden (Engineering) to design virtual-reality based controllers for music and virtual engineering received U.S. Department of Energy funding. Dr. Hopkins’ new composition Touche was premiered by Clarion Synthesis at the UK’s Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and also was performed at the Gent Conservatorium, Belgium. A new concert version of Dr. Hopkins’ The Animus Winds was performed at the national conference of SEAMUS (Society for Electroacoustic Music in the United States) by Sonja Giles. He also gave seminars in Sweden and was in residence in Amsterdam.

Gregory Oakes was in Amsterdam in March 2009 for a concert tour. He was invited to perform a concert of solo works on the Karnatic Lab concert series. He also taught a masterclass at the Amsterdam Conservatory. His new CD, New Dialects, is a collection of music that has folk or non-Western influences and appears on the Centaur Records label, which supports new and progressive recordings. Most of the pieces are for unaccompanied clarinet (one is for clarinet and flute). He recorded the CD with funding from an ISU subvention grant supporting scholarly research toward publication. New Dialects is available from iTunes, Amazon.com, Centaurrecords.com, or Gregoryoakes.com. Dr. Oakes has also been active as an orchestral musician and again was a member of the 2009 Central City Opera Orchestra in a post he has held since 1998.

Salem Press just published its encyclopedia Composers and Musicians of the 20th Century with eight articles in it authored by Jonathan Sturm. Sturm has additionally been invited to write a chapter on Louis Spohr’s opera Faust for a forthcoming book on Faust in Music in the 19th century.

Flutist Sonja Giles performed with ISU’s Christopher Hopkins at the National SEAMUS Convention in Indiana. She then joined the Des Moines Metro Opera orchestra during the summer. She also collaborated with Bruce Brubaker (New England Conservatory) and Amy Phelps (Quad Cities Symphony) for the annual Summer Music Festival in 2009. A Miyazawa Artist, Giles was the July 2009 Miyazawa featured artist. As coordinator for the 2009 Iowa Flute Festival at ISU, she hosted 250 flutists. Giles’ student Madeline Oglesby performed Liebermann’s Concerto for Flute with the ISU Symphony Orchestra as a 2009 Concerto Competition winner. Her students were the featured artists for the annual “Research at the Capitol” in Des Moines.
Alumni News

Marian (Peterson) Andersen (B.Mus. ’85) recently was featured in a recital at Hope United Methodist Church in Marshalltown. She played piano solos on the first half, and directed the Solon United Methodist Church choir after intermission. For many years Marian taught K-12 vocal music in the Lisbon (IA) Community Schools and later was the accompanist for the Cedar Rapids Concert Chorale.

Samantha (Deaton) Beeman (B.Mus. ’09) is in her first year as middle school band director with the North Polk schools.

Ted (B.Mus. ’07) and Elyse (Flagg) Brimeyer (B.Mus. ’07) welcomed their daughter, Malley Samantha Brimeyer, into the world on April 8. According to Ted, “She is 6 pounds and 13 ounces of joy!” Ted teaches at Johnston High School in Johnston and Elyse teaches at Summit Middle School in Johnston.

Beth (Neuerberg) Deutmeyer (B.Mus. ’06) is pursuing her Doctor of Music Arts degree in voice at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL). She received her Master of Music from UNL in May 2009. Beth was recently named a Hixson-Lied Graduate Fellow in the College of Fine and Performing Arts. These prestigious awards are given to a select number of new graduate students in each academic unit in the College. Beth has been cast as Emily in the November production of the opera Our Town by Ned Rorem.

Jennifer Edmondson (B.Mus. ’09) is pursuing a master's degree in composition and piano at the Conservatory of Music of the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Jennifer has a graduate assistantship in accompanying.

SoundTrack, a contemporary Christian music ensemble from Ames, released its first CD in June. Members of SoundTrack include Bob Hauser (BA ’92) and Liz Morse (BA ’05).

Carly Huhn (B.Mus. ’06) accepted an elementary school music position at North Cedar Schools in Stanwood, Iowa. Carly's uncle, Paul Rhoads, is the new head football coach at Iowa State.

Maureen Hurd Hause (B.Mus. ’94) was a featured performer in the world premier of Recovery Music by Morton Gould in a concert honoring “The Classical Legacy of Benny Goodman,” presented in Carnegie Hall on Sept. 26, 2009. Maureen discovered the unpublished manuscript while doing research in the Benny Goodman papers at Yale University. The late composer’s daughters were in attendance. The New York Times review included a photo of her performing and said, “More striking was Gould’s Recovery Music, a tiny triptych for solo clarinet, vibrantly played by Maureen Hurd to open the concert’s second half.”

Maureen's performances in October, and again in January, with the Metropolitan Opera in a production of Der Rosenkavalier will be broadcast nationally on Jan. 9. She appears in the on-stage “banda” with Renée Fleming and Susan Graham, conducted by James Levine. Her CD of premier performances of music for clarinet was released in November on the MSR label. Maureen's research on Benny Goodman's classical side has been presented in several national venues and has been published in The Clarinet, the journal of the International Clarinet Association. She is on the music faculty of Rutgers University.

John Mattingly’s (BA ’81 Math) new musical House of Iowa: Real Ghost Encounters Brought back to Life premiered in three central Iowa locations in November 2009, including the Sugar Grove Vineyard in Newton. Since graduating from Iowa State he has had an active career as jazz and blues pianist, composer, and arranger.

Leslie (Schafer) Meyer (B.Mus ’02) moved to New York after graduation to attend the Manhattan School of Music. She received her Master of Music in 2004 in vocal performance. In 2005 Leslie and husband, Rob Meyer (ISU ’02) had their first child, Phoebe. They moved to Rochester, MN in 2006 where Rob works for IBM and Leslie maintains a private voice studio. Leslie and Rob welcomed baby #2, Hudson, in 2008. Leslie is currently singing in various performances in southern Minnesota when she’s not teaching voice lessons or carting around the kids.

Clint Nieman (B.Mus. ’04) has been living in Denver for the past two years (Colorado for the last three) and loving every bit of it. “While not currently performing or teaching, I have done both over the past two years at a marimba school in Boulder called the Kutandara Center. Its website is www.kutandara.com, and there are several examples of the kind of music we play online.” He is in the first year of a master’s program in transpersonal counseling psychology at Naropa University and plans to become a licensed therapist after graduation. He hopes to work with stroke and brain trauma survivors, people with autism and Asperger’s syndrome, and their caregivers and families. He recently received an Alexander Foundation Scholarship for the 2009-2010 year to support his graduate study.

Quyen Nguyen (BA ’08) is currently teaching kindergarten at Margaret Fain Elementary in Atlanta. Twenty-five percent of her students are learning English as a second language, so she speaks Spanish everyday. She is working through the Teach for America program while concurrently earning her teacher licensure. Quyen is still staying connected in music by co-directing and accompanying the school choir (3rd-5th graders).

David (B.Mus. ’07) and Jennifer Steinke welcomed their son Marcus Sylvus Steinke into the world on August 21. According to Dave, “He’s a quiet baby for the most part (a blessing) unless he needs to eat. Our lives have been happily turned upside down ever since.” Dave is the new Director of Bands at Des Moines East High School.
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