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<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>ISU Band Extravaganza&lt;br&gt;ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”&lt;br&gt;ISU Jazz Ensemble I &amp; II&lt;br&gt;ISU Symphony Orchestra</td>
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<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>ISU Faculty Chamber Music Recital&lt;br&gt;ISU Wind Ensemble, Concert Band and Symphonic Band&lt;br Collage of Chords&lt;br&gt;George Will Cello Recital&lt;br&gt;ISU Theatre’s “Diary of Anne Frank”&lt;br&gt;ISU Jazz Ensemble I &amp; II</td>
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<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>Joseph Messenger Clarinet Recital&lt;br&gt;ISU Faculty Chamber Music Recital&lt;br&gt;ISU Wind Ensemble, “A Tribute to John Philip Sousa”&lt;br&gt;ISU Percussion Ensemble&lt;br&gt;ISU State Singers</td>
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<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>ISU Cyclone Honor Band&lt;br&gt;ISU Honor Band &amp; ISU Wind Ensemble&lt;br&gt;ISU Concert Band / Symphonic Band&lt;br&gt;Ames Piano Quartet&lt;br&gt;ISU Percussion Ensemble&lt;br&gt;ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”&lt;br&gt;ISU Theatre’s “Diary of Anne Frank”</td>
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| DECEMBER | ISU Opera Studio<br>Concert Band, Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival<br>ISU Theatre’s “Diary of Anne Frank”<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival
| JANUARY | Madrigal Dinner<br>ISU Faculty Chamber Music Recital<br>ISU Theatre’s “Talking With”<br>Musica Antiqua<br>ISU Theatre’s “Talking With”<br>ISU Singers<br>ISU State Singers<br>Central College Flying Pans Steel Band<br>ISU Honor Band & ISU Wind Ensemble<br>ISU Cyclone Honor Band<br>Ames Piano Quartet<br>ISU Wind Ensemble, “A Tribute to John Philip Sousa”<br>ISU Percussion Ensemble<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “Diary of Anne Frank” |
| FEBRUARY | ISU Student Theatre Production<br>ISU Theatre’s “The Secret Garden”<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearly Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “Diary of Anne Frank”<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “True West”<br>Holiday Choral Festival
| MARCH | ISU Percussion Ensemble<br>ISU Theatre’s “The Secret Garden”<br>ISU Faculty Chamber Music Recital<br>ISU Theatre’s “The Secret Garden”<br>ISU Jazz Ensemble I & II<br>ISU State Singers<br>Central College Flying Pans Steel Band<br>ISU Honor Band & ISU Wind Ensemble<br>ISU Cyclone Honor Band<br>Ames Piano Quartet<br>ISU Wind Ensemble, “A Tribute to John Philip Sousa”<br>ISU Percussion Ensemble<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “Diary of Anne Frank” |
| APRIL | ISU Student Theatre Production<br>ISU Theatre’s “The Secret Garden”<br>ISU State Singers<br>Central College Flying Pans Steel Band<br>ISU Honor Band & ISU Wind Ensemble<br>ISU Cyclone Honor Band<br>Ames Piano Quartet<br>ISU Wind Ensemble, “A Tribute to John Philip Sousa”<br>ISU Percussion Ensemble<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “Diary of Anne Frank” |
| MAY | ISU Honors Choir<br>ISU State Singers<br>Central College Flying Pans Steel Band<br>ISU Honor Band & ISU Wind Ensemble<br>ISU Cyclone Honor Band<br>Ames Piano Quartet<br>ISU Wind Ensemble, “A Tribute to John Philip Sousa”<br>ISU Percussion Ensemble<br>ISU Theatre’s “Dearily Departed”<br>ISU Theatre’s “Diary of Anne Frank” |

This is a partial listing of Department of Music and ISU Theatre events. For updated information go to www.music.iastate.edu and www.theatre.iastate.edu.
Orchestra Hall in Chicago is a long way from the Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall on the Iowa State campus.

But three Iowa State music ensembles made the trek to the bright lights of Chicago last February to perform at the famed facility. The Iowa State Singers, the ISU Wind Ensemble and the ISU Symphony Orchestra all performed at Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center just across the street from the Art Institute. The performances were all part of the Department of Music presents second annual President’s Concert—this time in Chicago’s Orchestra Hall.

By the second President’s Concert in February 2004 and attracted more than 500 alumni, parents and friends of Iowa State’s Department of Music.

Also in the audience were Iowa State president Gregory Geoffroy and Michael Whitelord, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS). The Department of Music is one of 23 LAS academic departments.

"It was exciting to perform at such an amazing venue in Chicago," said Shelby Sievers, a senior music major and member of the Iowa State Singers. "We had spent so many hours, days, weeks and months preparing for this concert and we all took the stage feeling proud, confident and ready to share our music."

Simon Estes, the F. Wendell Miller Distinguished Artist-in-Residence at Iowa State, appeared as a soloist with each of the ensembles.

The Iowa State Singers actually used the President’s Concert as a “dress rehearsal” for a performance later in the spring of 2004 at the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) district convention.

"This was our first chance to run our entire program start to finish and get a good idea of how we were doing stamina-wise and memory-wise," said Ted Brimeyer, a freshman music major and member of the Iowa State Singers. "The opportunity to perform in Orchestra Hall was absolutely thrilling.

The great response we received from the audience in Chicago served to reinforce that we were on the right track," continued Brimeyer, who also played French horn with the ISU Symphony Orchestra.

The President’s Concert originally began in the spring of 2002 as a way of introducing Geoffroy, who had recently been installed as Iowa State’s president, to alumni in Minneapolis.

Sue Haug, professor and chair of the Department of Music, has indicated that additional President’s Concerts will be scheduled throughout the Midwest every two years.

International opera star and distinguished faculty-in-residence Simon Estes performed with each of the three Iowa State ensembles.

Individual performances by given by the ISU Symphony Orchestra (left) and the ISU Wind Ensemble (below) as well as the Iowa State Singers.
Dear Alumni and Friends:

Greetings from Iowa State Music and Theatre. I am delighted to send you news about the department through this new publication supported by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This has been a very productive year, despite the challenges of recurring state budget cuts. Many of the achievements enumerated below were made possible by your gifts. This partnership with alumni and friends helps us make dreams come true – and for that we are very grateful to you.

Music and Theatre collaborated on two highly successful productions this year: in the fall, Gilbert and Sullivan’s Ruddigore and in spring the SOV production of Fiddler on the Roof. In February (thanks to a gift from Deloris Wright) Iowa State Singers, the ISU Wind Ensemble, and Symphony Orchestra, accompanied by ISU president Gregory Geoffroy and LAS dean Michael Whiteford, traveled to Chicago for the “President’s Concert” in Orchestra Hall and several alumni events. In April (thanks to an ISU Foundation endowment), we hosted Academy Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Corigliano for a five-day residency culminating in outstanding performances by faculty s and students.

We continue to benefit from a well-designed, acoustically ideal music building, but it is showing its age (now almost 25 years old). With help from several major donors, we have remodeled the recital hall and two classrooms and have added new digital equipment to almost every room in the building. Theatre’s home in Pearson Hall is being remodeled, and we look forward to a redesigned office space and a theatre design lab. We are working closely with Parks Library, making many of our course listening materials available through streaming audio, and in the future, we expect many more materials – both for students and for the public – to be available on-line through Parks Library’s new Arts e-wings.

The Iowa State Singers has just received an invitation to perform a solo concert at the American Choral Directors Association National Convention in Los Angeles in February 2005, a pinnacle achievement for an American choir. Dr. James Rodde, Director of Choral Activities, received accolades for their performance at the Iowa Bandmasters Convention in Los Angeles in February 2005, a pinnacle achievement for an American choir. Dr. James Rodde, Director of Choral Activities, received accolades for their performance at the Iowa Bandmasters Convention in Los Angeles in February 2005, a pinnacle achievement for an American choir. Dr. James Rodde, Director of Choral Activities, received accolades for their performance at the Iowa Bandmasters Convention in Los Angeles in February 2005, a pinnacle achievement for an American choir. 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The department hosted visitors from the National Association of Schools of Music for our ten-year accreditation review, and we passed with flying colors – in June receiving notice of our continued accreditation. The visitors listed among our strengths “a highly student-centered department; very strong outreach programs; ensemble programs of excellence; exceptional instruction and service to many non-majors; and a well-qualified, professionally active, and collegial faculty.” We intend to continue this tradition of strong undergraduate programs as we consider new initiatives in graduate education, diversity, and technology. Thank you for your continued support and interest in ISU Music and Theatre. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, and I encourage you to stay in touch.

Sincerely,

Sue Haug, Head
Department of Music

Cyclone pep band hits the Today Show

While in New York City for the NIT men’s basketball games last March, several members of the ISU Cyclone pep band took the opportunity to catch NBC’s the “Today Show” live at Rockefeller Center and a chance to meet Katie Couric.

Material for Music Today has been produced by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Additional information on the Department of Music and ISU Theatre is available on-line at http://www.las.iastate.edu/newnews/musictheatreindex.shtml
Continuous exchanges

Department of Music has long-standing agreement with Taiwanese university.

For three weeks in late January and early February, Shan-Hua Chien, chairman of the music department at the National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU), was on the Iowa State campus as an artist in residence.

During his stay, Chien presented a lecture and was in concert with faculty members in Iowa State’s Department of Music.

The composer also worked with Iowa State composition and music history students, as well as choral and instrumental ensembles.

“Our students will benefit from what he has to say,” said Don Simonson, professor of music. “This was a great opportunity for them.”

Chien's appearance on campus is just the latest in a series of exchanges the two music departments have held over the years.

Numerous faculty from NTNU have spent residencies at Iowa State:

- “Each one has performed a recital and master classes while here,” Simonson said. “Plus our students get the opportunity to work one-on-one with the (Taiwanese) faculty.”

- The program has worked both ways, actually beginning in the late 70s when Lawrence Burkhalter, professor emeritus of music and a founding member of the Ames Piano Quartet, first visited NTNU. A few years later, David Stuart, associate professor of music, spent a year in Taipei as part of the exchange.

- Stuart has returned on more than one occasion and William Davids, professor of music, participated in 2001.

- Numerous faculty from NTNU have spent residencies at Iowa State:
  - “My time in Taipei has allowed me to expose my students to a diverse culture,” he said. “The department there has a great appreciation of Western style operatic singing, but they also are experts in Chinese art and folk music. I have also had the opportunity to present master classes at nine or ten other colleges and universities throughout the country.”
  - Simonson said the exchange is more than just performing though, NTNU is primarily a teacher-training institution with over 12,000 students. However the music department at NTNU is the most prestigious on the island of Taiwan where virtually all the music faculty have graduate music degrees from major European or American universities.

- Simonson said he expects the exchange program to continue and hopes to travel back to Taipei.

- “It’s such a comfortable environment and every time I go back I feel more at home,” he said. “The exchange has given me a chance to grow and develop skills that I bring back to Iowa State and pass on to our students.

- “The relationship that we as a department have with the faculty is so rich,” he continued. “Every time I have walked into their department in Taipei I feel like I’m walking into my own department here in Ames.”

Celebrating Florence

Department of Music hosts three-day Florence Symposium.

For three days in January, the Department of Music honored Carl Bleyle, emeritus professor of music, for his contributions to Iowa State’s Semester in Florence program.

The symposium on Italian art and music featured principal guest clinician John Spike in a series of lectures and concerts.

Spike, the author of more than 20 books, lectured on “The Ambiguities of Caravaggio.” The art critic and historian has organized many exhibitions of Italian art and lectured at museums and universities around the world.

The “Italian Music of the Middle Ages and Renaissance” concert featured music from scores found in paintings in Renaissance Florence/Tuscany/Italy of Caravaggio and painters of the school of Caravaggio. Spike introduced slides of paintings that were projected during the concert which was performed by Musica Antiqua, directed by Bleyle.

Musica Antiqua, made up of current and former Iowa State faculty, staff and students, also performed the compositions with replicas of instruments found in the paintings. Music written by Florentine composers such as Landino, Lorenzo de’ Medici, Savonarola, Caccini, and Peri was included in the concert.

The program annually attracts students from several majors on campus. Bleyle says in the short life of the program, students have represented 25 different majors.

“This is the perfect learning community,” he said. “The students get to stay in the same place, all on one floor, and get to know each other very well. The cross disciplinary discussion between the students is a highlight. They are able to talk to people in other academic fields and get other ideas.”

World class composer

Pulitzer Prize, Academy Award-winning composer in residence at Iowa State.

John Corigliano, a Pulitzer Prize- and Academy Award-winning composer, was on the Iowa State University campus for a three-day residency with the Department of Music April 1-3 in the 2004 Fisher Representatives System Artist-in-Residence Program.

The American composer has been proclaimed as one of the nation’s most important composers. He was the winner of the 2001 Pulitzer Prize in Music for his Symphony No. 2. In 2000 he received an Oscar for his musical score to “The Red Violin.”

During his residency, two performances of Corigliano’s works were given including a concert featuring the ISU Symphony Orchestra, the ISU Wind Ensemble, the Iowa State Singers, ISU Dance and the Concert Choir of the Ames Children’s Choirs.

A second performance, featuring the Iowa State Opera Studio and faculty of the Department of Music included Corigliano’s “Gazeta Dances” for four-hand piano, “Phantasmagoria” for cello and piano, “Three Irish Folksong Settings,” and scenes from the opera The Ghosts of Versailles.

During his residency, Corigliano also gave a public lecture.

A distinguished professor of music at Lehman College at the City University of New York, Corigliano is also on the faculty at the Juilliard School. He is internationally celebrated as one of the leading composers of his generation. In orchestral, chamber, opera and film work he has won global acclaim for highly expressive and compelling compositions as well as his kaleidoscopic, ever-expanding technique.
Deep down Leslie Schafer Meyer is an Iowa girl. Which makes her residency in the New York City metropolitan area all that more surprising. Meyer is now in her second year at the Manhattan School of Music, working on a graduate degree.

"I was a camp counselor at this camp for kids ages three to 14 and all of a sudden I have this chest voice," she said. "I guess from talking to the kids everyday." All of this has also opened some doors for Meyer in the New York arts scene. This fall she will appear as Mother Theresa in a production of Milton Granger’s "The Proposal." The production features contemporary music and will be the New York premiere of the piece.

Her director for that show is the acting coach with the Young Artist at the Metropolitan Opera – just one more thing that gets her name in front of people. "I’ve got to roll with the punches and see what happens," she said.

Meyer plans to spend the next several months auditioning for a variety of companies including the Minnesota Opera, the Ohio Light Opera and the Summer Young Adult Program apprenticeship.

"I’m going to use that audition experience and continue to take voice lessons," she said. "And just wait and see what happens."

Maureen Hurd admits that she gets homesick for Iowa. Hurd, a 1994 music graduate of Iowa State, also admits the reason she returned to New York City was because she missed that city as well.

"I am lucky to have had good experiences in both parts of the country," she said. After graduating from Iowa State, Hurd earned two master’s degrees in the mid 1990s and a doctorate degree in 2002, all from the Yale School of Music. During her initial three-and-a-half year stay in New Haven, Conn., Hurd says she had “lots of gigs in both New Haven and New York City.”

As an orchestral clarinetist, she has performed with New York City’s Jupiter Symphony and the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. She appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in concerts throughout the United States, Canada and Germany including concerts in New York City’s Merkin Hall, Cathedral of Saint John the Divine and Riverside Church.

“One of the performances even got a review in the (New York) Times,” she said. “I had a lot of good stuff happening.” Then Hurd got a call from Iowa State. Her clarinet professor, Joseph Messenger, was going on sabbatical for a semester and Hurd was offered the job on a leave-replacement basis.

“Things were starting to happen to me in New York and then I moved back to Iowa,” she said. “I was gone for five years.”

“It was important for me to develop my professional career as a performer and teacher in order to complete my doctorate at Yale, which has a unique doctoral program that requires three to five years of professional experience in order to earn the degree.” Those five years were spent in a series of music teaching jobs that took Hurd to Pittsburg State University and Ft. Hays State University (both in Kansas) to the University of Central Arkansas. She co-founded Colloquy, a contemporary chamber ensemble, won a prize for her lecture-recital at the 2001 International Clarinet Association convention and continued to perform in New York City occasionally.

“I loved the Midwest and the work I was doing there,” she said. But New York City maintained a strong pull for Hurd, who knew she needed a teaching job in the New York area in order to survive financially.

Then Rutgers University and the Mason Gross School of Music in suburban New York City called.

“Teaching in a university setting is my strength," she said. For the past two years, Hurd has been a tenure-track faculty member at Rutgers as the sole clarinet instructor. Now she is starting to work her way back into the city’s performing community. She performed a solo and chamber music recital at Christ and St. Stephen’s Church near Lincoln Center in Manhattan last spring.

And as an active New York performer of new music, she has appeared with the Prism Players and in such venues as the Theater for the New City, the Present Company Theatorium and the Medicine Show Theater.

“There are two professors I really wanted to study with there,” she said. “I have to be proactive about everything," she said. "When I walk into that school I have to be on all the time."

"I have to be proactive about everything," she said. “When I walk into that school I have to be on all the time."

"I’m going to use that audition experience and continue to take voice lessons," she said. "And just wait and see what happens."

Back to New York Big city, big draw for clarinetist.

Now in graduate school, Leslie Meyer is trying to make it in New York.

Top choirs continued from cover

Chair in Music and director of choral activities, said he saw improvement in the Iowa State Singers almost daily.

He’ll hope for that same improvement this coming year. The Iowa State Singers have been selected to perform at the ACDA national convention Feb. 2-3, 2005, in Los Angeles.

“It’s reasonable to say that being selected to sing a solo performance at a national ACDA convention represents the pinnacle achievement for an American choir,” he said. “Since there were an unprecedented number of tapes submitted for this year’s convention, I feel especially proud that the Iowa State Singers were selected.”

The Iowa State Singers are slated to perform once on Feb. 2 and twice on Feb. 3 at the convention. An Iowa State alumni event is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 1 in the Los Angeles area that will feature the Iowa State Singers.
The success of “The Lion King” has spilled out well beyond Broadway. A ninth production opened this past summer in Sydney, Australia.

Boardman’s supervisor traveled to Australia to mount that production. And since New York City’s version of “The Lion King” is the main production, Boardman has responsibilities not only for the Broadway show, but productions around the world.

On the day of the interview, Boardman had to deal with costumes that were stuck in customs on their way to London.

“There is no one day that is the same,” she said even after six years with the show. “Every day brings new challenges and opportunities. It’s never routine.”

Broadway veteran Iowa State alumna a future background on the Great White Way.

It’s a long way from Stars Over Yeshiva (SOV) to Broadway, but Cynthia Boardman, class of 1977, has made the journey.

Boardman came to Iowa State from Columbus, Ohio as a food nutrition major. During her freshman year, one of her “big sisters” in the dorms told her that the SOV production of “Mame” needed some help with props.

“It was just a couple of weeks of work and I thought it would be fun,” Boardman said. “It was really nice to have a break from organic chemistry.”

Boardman had so much fun with SOV that she eventually switched her major to speech and communication, while continuing her work with the theatre program.

That interest in the theatre continues to this day. Since the early 90s, Boardman has called New York City and Broadway home. Ever since her arrival she has worked on some of Broadway’s top musicals including “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” “42nd Street,” “Les Miserables,” “My One and Only,” and Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast.”

Boardman’s latest collaboration with a Broadway production actually began with an out-of-town run in Minneapolis with Disney’s “The Lion King” in 1997. She’s been with the show ever since and is now the production’s assistant wardrobe supervisor.

Artley plays “Taps” at hundreds of funerals in Arlington, every year. With World War II veterans graving older the funerals have increased.

“Causalties from the Iraqi War have also been buried in Arlington,” he said. “Obviously the funerals of young people have a different emotional impact than others.”

Another one of Artley’s Army duties is to coordinate music for all state funerals, duties he hasn’t had to perform in the eight years that he held that responsibility until President Ronald Reagan died earlier this year.

Artley says a template is developed for each state funeral with the families and former presidents expressing their wishes for the services.

The plans for President Reagan’s funeral have been in place since 1989.

“The basic template for the funeral and other state funerals doesn’t change,” Artley said. “But some of the details do. Every time the casket moved there was music involved.”

There were nine different military bands involved during the Reagan funeral. In any joint operations, the Army takes the lead. Artley coordinated the activities of the different military bands and civilian performers.

“When President Kennedy was buried they literally made it up as they went,” he said. “The military decided to start putting planning processes together for future state funerals.”

Despite having a template in place, Artley said the Reagan family changed music throughout the weeklong activities around the funeral.

“We were making musical changes the day before the interment,” he said. “Not only do we have to find the music, there are copyright issues and then we have to get the music out to the various bands.”

“We knew the Reagan funeral would be a world event and we knew we had to be at our best.”

The Army Band is one of three premiere bands in the U.S. Army. It consists of 260 musicians and includes a concert band, ceremonial band, big band, string orchestra, chorus and pop vocal group.

On any given day, the Army Band can perform at funerals at Arlington National Cemetery, play at an officer’s retirement, or give a summer concert on the steps of the U.S. Capitol.

Artley, who has been a member of the Army Band for the past 10 years, says he has played at the recent dedication ceremonies for Washington’s World War II Memorial and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

He also serves as the Army Band’s assistant drum major, a position he has experience at, after serving as the drum major for the Cyclone Marching Band in 1982 and 1983. In his Army role Artley conducts the ceremonial band at funerals and other special events.

“The thought that I would be a professional drum major never crossed my mind back in Ames,” Artley said.

Not all of Artley’s duties are solemn occasions. As a member of the Army’s Herald Trumpets, he has had the opportunity to play at countless arrivals of dignitaries on the White House balcony. The current Bush administration uses that space for photos.

“We (the Herald Trumpets) literally have to step aside to allow the President, First Lady, the honored guest, and their spouse by when they come up on the balcony for a photo op,” he said. “They stand within feet of us on the balcony. It’s been a real neat experience.”

Artley says he owes a lot of what he has accomplished to Joe Christiansen, former Iowa State band director who died in 1998.

“He was truly a great influence on me,” Artley said.

“He made such a great impact on me and countless others in the band both musically and personally.”

One of those individuals is Artley’s wife Andrea (Andrews) Artley, who attended Iowa State for two years in the early 1980s. Andrea is the principal flute player in the Army Band.

Solemn occasions Former Cyclone drum major continues playing music.
The thought of putting words on a sheet of paper never occurred to the long-time ISU Theatre professor. That is until a former College of Liberal Arts and Sciences dean asked her to write a one-woman play about Iowa State alumna Carrie Chapman Catt.

The former LAS dean had seen Cox perform a one-woman play on the life of Emily Dickinson entitled “The Belle of Amherst.”

“I told him I think I could do that before I even really thought about it,” Cox said. “It wasn’t until much later that I realized that the dean thought I had written ‘The Belle of Amherst’ and that was why he asked me to do the script on Carrie Chapman Catt.”

Cox threw herself into that first script. She visited Catt’s birthplace in Charles City, Iowa, and would spend long days at the Library of Congress extensively researching the life of the famous suffragette. Cox even met with Catt’s relatives.

“I wanted to do such a thorough job of presenting her that I was practically obsessed about it. I found myself working on it all the time,” she said. “With my very first script I had so much information and I became very concerned that it’s not a history thesis,” Cox said. “You want to show that person’s emotional life and development.”

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“I wanted to do such a thorough job of presenting her that I was practically obsessed about it. I found myself working on it all the time,” she said. “With my very first script I had so much information and I became very concerned that it was too precise. I only know of two stage adaptations,” she said, “and those were in the 1910s and 1940s.”

“Little Women has been made into a movie several times, but I only know of two stage adaptations,” she said, “and those were in the 1910s and 1940s.”

“Her daunting task was just beginning.

“It is such a huge book and that’s the problem with adapting it for the stage,” Cox said. “You have to include the parts that you love as a reader, but you also need to develop the characters. What I tried to do was keep the spirit of the novel intact. It’s been loved by so many people for so long, to deviate too far from the book would be a mistake.”

She took much the same approach with “A Christmas Carol.” Her version is very faithful to the original Dickens’ version.

“When we all love something, we don’t want to change anything about it,” she says. “Why change something so good?”

Maybe one day playwrights will be saying the same thing about a Jane Cox script.
ISU Theatre faculty and students won four awards at the Region V competition of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival.

The awards recipients included:

• Phil Henry won first place for regional undergraduate scenic design for “Bloody Poetry”
• Gregory Duckett received an award of merit for his costume design of “Romeo and Juliet.”
• Ben Myers was awarded an award of merit for his lighting design of “Romeo and Juliet.”
• Robert Sunderman, assistant professor of music and resident scenic designer for ISU Theatre, received an award of merit for his scenic design of “Proof.”

Ornament designed for White House Christmas Tree

Robert Sunderman, assistant professor of music and resident scenic designer for ISU Theatre designed and crafted an ornament for the White House Christmas Tree in December 2002.

The ornament was selected through a competition by the Iowa Arts Council and displayed on the White House Christmas Tree by President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush.

Mrs. Bush selected a bird theme for the ornaments in 2002. Sunderman’s ornament of the Gold Finch, the state bird of Iowa, was made out of brass and has a three-dimensional look to it with wings coming out of the body. The ornament as painted golden to “make it stand out” according to Sunderman.

Spring musical

Student riots last spring have forced the suspension of Veishea at Iowa State in 2005, but Stars Over Veishea (SOV) will continue in a somewhat different form.

ISU Theatre, in conjunction with the Department of Music and ISU Dance, will present “The Secret Garden” over two weekends in late April. Performances will be held April 8-9 and 15-16 at 7:30 p.m. and on April 10 and 17 at 2 p.m.

And instead of performing in Stephens Auditorium, “The Secret Garden” will be held in the adjacent Fisher Theater.

“We’re excited that president (Gregory) Geoffroy has decided, even with the suspension of Veishea this year, to continue the SOV tradition,” said Jane Cox, professor and director of ISU Theatre. “‘The Secret Garden’ is a great family musical and will be perfect for this year’s musical production.”

Based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, “The Secret Garden” is the story of Mary Lennox, the lonely little girl who was sent to live with her uncle Archibald in Yorkshire after being orphaned by a cholera epidemic in India. Still grieving over the loss of his beloved wife Lily and distraught over the condition of his bedridden son, Archibald casts a dark shadow over the manor until Mary discovers a secret garden that once belonged to Lily. By nursing the garden back to life, Mary somehow restores life to her grieving uncle and his sick son.

2004–2005 ISU Theatre calendar

Bleacher Bums
Sept. 24-25 and Oct. 1-2, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, 2 p.m.

In the bleachers at Chicago’s Wrigley Field, die-hard Cub fans root for their team. Members of the group include a sun-worshipper, a blind man who follows the game by transistor radio, a professional gambler, a husband, and wife, a nerd, and a little kid.

True West
Nov. 5-6, 13, and Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 7, 2 p.m.

This American classic by Sam Shepard explores alternatives that might spring from the demented terrain of the California landscape as sons of a desert-dwelling alcoholic and a suburban wanderer seeking meaning in Alaska clash over a film script.

Dearly Departed
Sept. 24-25 and Oct. 1-2, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, 2 p.m.

This American classic by Sam Shepard explores alternatives that might spring from the demented terrain of the California landscape as sons of a desert-dwelling alcoholic and a suburban wanderer seeking meaning in Alaska clash over a film script.

Talking With
Jan. 27-29, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 30, 2 p.m.

Through a series of diverse, revelatory monologues by eclectic characters, “Talking With” explores the experiences, the perspectives and the voices of women, some of which are hilarious, some are soulful, all of which are poignant.

Diary of Anne Frank
Feb. 25-26 and March 4-5, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27 and March 6, 2 p.m.

Few plays have moved the Broadway critics like “The Diary of Anne Frank,” the story of a young Jewish girl growing up amidst the Holocaust. The play is the winner of the 1956 Pulitzer Prize and a Tony Award for Best Play.

Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. Vietnam Era Veteran. Any persons having inquiries concerning this may contact the Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, 515-294-1012, EOM 0594.

To all the alumni and friends who supported the efforts of the Music Department this last year, a big thank you. Your gifts and pledges have really been appreciated by the students and faculty of the department.

It is impossible to overstate the impact of personal contributions to the Department of Music. As a state assisted university we can still rely on some of our financial support to come from tax dollars. The difference is made up in tuition, research support and private contributions, and as we strive to get better and better in financially trying times, private support takes on an even more critical role.

A couple of gifts we received this last year have been instrumental. From the endowment the fund will help the programs of the department.

The ISU Department of Music is the new home of a Petrof Model II concert grand piano thanks to Ted (ENG ’60, ’63, ’65) and Rae (LAS ’65, ’66) Okishii of Ames. After 10 years of owning their piano, the couple decided it was time to move it to a location where it would be enjoyed by many and frequently played. The Okishis contacted Sue Haug, head of the ISU Music Department and the ISU Foundation to make arrangements for donating the piano. Sue reports that the Okishis’ generosity, hundreds of students, professors, and others will benefit from the sounds of this grand piano for years to come.

Dolores Wright (’73 Ph.D.) has been a generous supporter of the Music Department for many years. One of her recent gifts was support for a second “President’s Concert” allowing the department’s top ensembles to travel to Chicago to perform for ISU alumni and friends in that city’s premiere concert hall – Orchestra Hall. This last year she asked Sue Haug to list her most pressing needs for the department. Sue responded with a “wish list” of new instruments she would love to be in a position to purchase. Doloris responded with a generous gift that allowed the department to purchase new instruments including a tuba, oboes, bassoon, natural and rotary trumpets, double bass, cello and digital keyboard. Sue reports that the students and faculty were thrilled with the wonderful new year’s surprise gifts.

These are just two examples of how private gifts are put to work for the Music Department. We thank you for your investment in the Music Department this last year and hope you will continue to think of us when you make your philanthropic decisions in the future. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to learn more about how you can help the Iowa State University Music Department.

Alsatia Mellecker
Senior Director of Development
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
515-294-6431 or 866-419-6768
amelleck@iastate.edu