

Faculty NEWS



JOYCE CASTLE, University Distinguished Professor of Voice, released a **world premiere**

recording. American Composer William Bolcom (b. 1938) created “The Hawthorn Tree” to help celebrate the 40th anniversary of mezzo-soprano Joyce Castle’s singing career. He used the texts from 7 American and English poets to create songs well suited for Ms. Castle’s fabulous voice. More information can be found [here](#). ■



ABBY DVORAK, Assistant Professor of Music Education and Music Therapy, presented a paper,

“Processing Popular Music: An Evidence-based Lyrics Analysis Protocol for Mental Health,” at the **American Music Therapy Association National Conference** (Nov. 6-9) in

Louisville, KY. In addition, another of her research papers, “Music Therapy Intervention Preference and Benefit for Clients with SPMI: A Mixed Methods Approach,” was selected as one of four papers for an oral paper presentation at the same conference. ■



MARIANA FARAH, Associate Director of Choral Activities, was this year’s guest conductor for

the **Russell League Choir**, which is a choral high school festival involving 100-120 singers. The all-day festival took place on Monday, Nov. 24, and led to an evening concert at the Catholic Church in Russell, KS. ■



JEFF HARSHBARGER, Lecturer in Jazz Studies, performed in the **world premiere of *The Arcadia Suite*** at the Twilight Concert in Elmdale, KS. Composed

by Darol Anger (Turtle Island String Quartet), the *Suite* featured

Anger, Harshbarger, Eugene Friesen, Emy Phelps, Kenny White, and Concertmaster John Harrison.

Harshbarger also led the musical ensemble for the revival of *The Nervous Set* at the Lawrence Arts Center, and appeared with the Bob Montgomery Quintet at the **Bethany Jazz Festival** in Lindsborg, KS. In Nov., Harshbarger reunited with the internationally acclaimed Tango Lorca to produce the music for *Jacque Brel - The Life and Music of a Legend* for Musical Theater Heritage in Kansas City, MO. ■



DEBRA HEDDEN, Professor and Director of Music Education, gave a pre-concert presentation on the Vienna Boys’ Choir for the

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the Lied Center on Oct. 31. She integrated history, video clips, and concert information with her research on teaching children to sing. ■

Photo: Swarthout Recital Hall construction continues - the ceiling panels have been updated and installed. The hall is scheduled to open in March.



DR. CHRISTOPHER M. JOHNSON, Professor of Music Education and Music Therapy and Dr. Becky Eason, CPPR Associate Director, in close collaboration with Topeka Public Schools, wrote a grant for an **Arts Infusion Project** as part of an initiative to enhance and strengthen programs that integrate arts in elementary and middle school curricula. The four-year, **\$1.8 million federal education award**, will infuse arts across the curriculum and improve students critical-thinking skills. ■



PAUL LAIRD, Professor of Musicology, presented a paper entitled “The Orchestrator as Collaborator: A Consideration Through Case Studies” at the conference “Song, Stage & Screen IX,” which took place at **Sheridan College** in Oakdale, Ontario in June 2014.

In addition, on a recent trip to England he presented the paper “Elphaba Must Sing: Stephen Schwartz and the Musicalization of Wickedness in Oz” at the conference “The Wizard of Oz and the Cultural Imagination,” which took place at the **University of Brighton** on Nov. 21 and 22, 2014, and on Nov. 25 he gave a guest lecture on Broadway orchestration at the University of Winchester. ■



STEVE LEISRING, Associate Professor of Trumpet, performed with the **Kansas City Symphony at Game 6 of the World Series** in Oct. Professor Leisring had just finished teaching a Master Class at the Puerto Rico Conservatory in San Juan, Puerto Rico on Monday, Oct. 27. when he received the invitation from the orchestra to perform at the game on Tues., Oct.

28. Fortunately, he was able to get a 3 a.m. flight that arrived in Kansas City in time to join the orchestra for the “live” nationally televised performance. ■



MARGARET MARCO, Associate Professor of Oboe; Ellen Bottorff, Lecturer in Piano and Annie Gnojek, KU flute alum, who comprise the trio *Allegresse* were the featured guest artists at **New Frontiers: The Laramie Contemporary Music Project at the University of Wyoming** on Oct. 7. Among other works,

they performed trios by Gabriela Lena Frank and Ingrid Stölzel, which they commissioned, and *Tango No. 1* arranged for them by Anne Guzzo. The trio also performed at the University of Northern Colorado and presented master classes on Oct. 6. ■



SCOTT MURPHY, Associate Professor of Music Theory and Director, Division of Music Theory & Music Composition, has been appointed as the **founding editor** of the Society for Music Theory’s newest journal, SMT-Pod, a video journal displaying the best and most accessible of music-

theoretical scholarship in a multimedia format. Multimedia is also at the heart of his latest article in a recent issue of the Society’s flagship journal *Music Theory Spectrum*—“Scoring Loss in Recent Popular Film and Television”—which recognizes a consistent association between a certain harmonic progression and loss-induced sadness on screens big and small. He has presented this research for lay listeners and moviegoers in an 18-minute video **here**. ■



DAVID NEELY, Director, Orchestral Activities, conducted a concert with the **Indiana University Chamber Orchestra** on Oct. 15. ■



FORREST PIERCE’S *Silver Birch Scroll* for amplified cello received its **North American premiere** in Ann Arbor, Michigan on Sept. 16, and was reprised at Fresno State University Nov. 1st. Both performances were by Katri Ervamaa. Pierce, Associate Professor of Music Composition, has recently been commissioned

by the **American Guild of Organists** for a new cantata in conjunction with the 2016 AGO convention. ■



In Oct., **PAUL W. POPIEL**, Director of Bands, produced a CD at the **University of South Carolina**, as well as conducted the professional wind ensemble Concordia Santa Fe for a concert in New Mexico. In Nov., Popiel served as a headliner clinician for the first annual Director Development Days, sponsored by the **Michigan State Band and Orchestra Association**. ■





COLIN ROUST, Assistant Professor of Musicology, participated in the **American Musicological Society's** Annual Meeting, Nov. 6–9 in Milwaukee. As Chair of the Pedagogy Study Group, he was responsible for two roundtable sessions: “The End of the Undergraduate Music History Sequence?” and “Assessing Student

Learning in the Digital Environment.” The former was presented to a standing-room only crowd and has already been referred to as “a landmark moment for music history pedagogy.”

In addition, Roust published two articles in the most recent issue of *Naturlaut*, the journal of the **Chicago Mahler Society**. These were translations of William Ritter’s analyses of Mahler’s Third and Fourth Symphonies, originally published in Ritter’s 1905 book *Etudes d’art étranger*. ■



ROBERTA FREUND SCHWARTZ, Associate Professor in Musicology and Director, Division of Musicology, recently made an **unexpected discovery**: a recording of a radio ballad opera, written by **Langston Hughes** for the BBC in 1944, which has long been considered nonexistent. *The Man Who Went to War* was a 1944 collaboration between

D.G. Bridson, the Overseas Feature Editor of the BBC and Hughes. Learn more about the opera [here](#). ■



KETTY WONG, Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology, presented a paper entitled “Salsa dancing in China: The Transnational Flow of a Latin American Identity Marker” on Oct. 26 at the **Symposium Musical Map of the World**, organized by the Moscow

Conservatory P. I. Tchaikovsky. ■

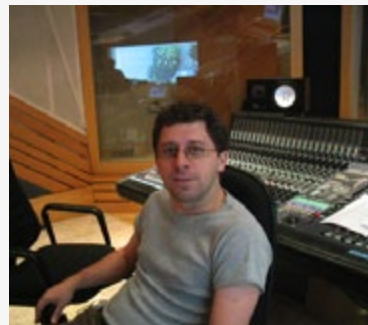
conference in Baton Rouge in August. This month, **Helianthus Contemporary Music Ensemble** will present three performances of his second opera, *The Nightingale*. The KU Symphony will also perform his piece, *Hyperion*, in March. ■



NATHAN JONES, a 2nd year DMA Composition student of Dr. Forrest Pierce, was selected by the **East Carolina University ACDA Student Chapter** to write a new choral work for a cappella voices, to be performed and recorded by the premiere ensemble at ECU, the ECU Chamber

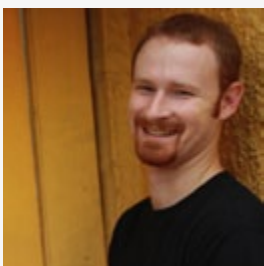
Singers. Under the direction of Dr. Andrew Crane, “In the firelight,” a poem by Eugene Field set for SATB divisi, was premiered on April 29th, 2014, at the Memorial Baptist Church in Greenville, NC. Listen to the performance [here](#).

On May 8, 2014, Nathan’s piece *Gamble everything for love*, was premiered at Blaine High School in Minnesota. This multi-movement work for woodwind octet and SATB was commissioned as part of an R-Word Campaign event. This grassroots movement is supported by **The Special Olympics** and aims to end the derogatory use of the word “retard” and to promote more inclusive environments for people with special needs. *Gamble...* will be featured at the 2015 Minnesota State ACDA convention during a presentation addressing the public school music classroom and methods for including students with physical and intellectual disabilities. You can read more about the piece and listen to it [here](#). ■



TONNY MOREIRA, D.M.A. student in composition, wrote four pieces for symphony orchestra, piano & bassoon, classical guitar, and one for two clarinets. He is also writing 40 music tracks that will be played on the **Globo TV channel in Brazil**. ■

Student NEWS



CHRIS BURTON, D.M.A. student in composition, traveled to Boston to participate in a performance and recording project of his piece *Storm's a' Comin'*. The same piece was also performed at the International Clarinet Association's ClarinetFest



GIVE TO KU SCHOOL OF MUSIC

On behalf of the Honor Recital Committee: **Congratulations** to the students chosen for the Undergraduate Honor Recital, which took place Nov. 19, 2014. Performers included Luke Rhodes, Emily Churchwell, Anne Schneller, Jake Thede, Grant Morgan, Isabel Keleti, Philip Kaul and Jin Wu. ■



KRISTIN NEWBEGIN, D.M.A. student in voice, performed with **Opera for the Young at Madison Opera**. Newbegin is a student of Joyce Castle, Professor of Voice. ■

Alumni NEWS

TARA CURTIS, D.M.A., '14, was chosen as a Studio Artist at Saratoga Opera. ■



JONATHAN GRIFFITH, B.M.E., '10, founder and music director of Distinguished Concerts Orchestra, is the 2014 winner of **The American Prize in Conducting** in the professional orchestra division. Maestro Griffith was selected from applications reviewed this fall from across the United States. The American Prize is a series of new, non-profit competitions designed to

recognize and reward the best performing artists, ensembles and composers in the United States. Founded in 2009, The American Prize is awarded annually in several areas of the performing arts. For more information click [here](#). ■

KU MUSIC ALUMNI - SEND US YOUR NEWS!

KU Music alumni, we would love to hear about the great work you're doing in the world of music. Please send us your music-related news - jobs, awards, photos, etc. - and it just may end up here in QuickNotes. Please email your recent alumni news to musicnews@ku.edu. ■



All events subject to change. Please visit music.ku.edu for the latest event information.

Upcoming Events

- DEC. 1** **JAZZ ENSEMBLE I**
with **DEBORAH BROWN, VOCALIST**
7:00 p.m. Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
Call 816-994-7222 for tickets
Admission free, but tickets are required
Sponsored by Reach Out Kansas, Inc.
- DEC. 2** **UNIVERSITY BAND & SYMPHONIC BAND**
7:30 p.m. Lied Center
Lied Center Ticket Office | 785-864-2787 | lied.ku.edu
- DEC. 6** **VESPERS-ON-THE-ROAD**
7:30 PM JCCC Carlsen Center Yardley Hall
Admission free, but tickets are required
Call 913-469-4445 for tickets
Sponsored by Reach Out Kansas, Inc.
- DEC. 7** **PRE-HOLIDAY VESPERS**
1:30 & 6:30 p.m. Bales Organ Recital Hall
Admission free
- DEC. 7** **HOLIDAY VESPERS - 90TH ANNUAL**
2:30 & 7:30 p.m. Lied Center
Lied Center Ticket Office | 785-864-2787 | lied.ku.edu
**Concert will be live streamed. [Click here.](#)*
- DEC. 8** **TUBA/EUPHONIUM CONSORT**
7:30 p.m. 130 Murphy Hall
Admission free
- DEC. 9** **ROCK CHALK SINGERS**
6:00 p.m. 328 Murphy Hall
Admission free
- DEC. 9** **BALES CHORALE**
7:30 p.m. Bales Organ Recital Hall
Admission free
- DEC. 10** **MEN'S GLEE**
7:00 p.m. KU Edwards Campus, Regnier Hall Auditorium
Admission free
- DEC. 10** **TROMBONE CHOIR**
7:30 p.m. 130 Murphy Hall
Admission free
- DEC. 11** **COLLEGIUM MUSICUM**
7:30 p.m. 328 Murphy Hall
Admission free
- DEC. 13** **COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL RECITAL**
2:00 p.m. 328 Murphy Hall
Admission free
- DEC. 13** **KU/MU JAZZ BORDER SHOWDOWN**
8:00 & 9:30 p.m. The Blue Room/American Jazz Museum
TBA