

## Welcome to the August 2012 KU School of Music QuickNotes!

What a busy summer it has been, and this semester proves to be just as exciting! Below we've highlighted news and events for the School for the past summer and this month, and we'll return next month with even more. It's going to be a great year—Rock Chalk!

## **MUSIC.KU.EDU**



DON'T MISS KU BAND DAY! The University of Kansas School of Music is pleased to present the 65th annual Band Day on Saturday, September 8, 2012. Between 30 and 40 high school bands from across Kansas, Missouri and the surrounding area will be in Lawrence to participate in this exciting annual event. KU Band Day begins with a parade down Massachusetts Street at 9:00 am, led by the Marching Jayhawks and directed by KU Associate Director of Bands/Director of Athletic

Bands, Matthew O. Smith. The bands will then perform at halftime of the 2:30 pm KU vs. Rice football game at Memorial Stadium. For the halftime event, the bands combine to perform "I'm a Jayhawk," "Stand Up and Cheer," "Kansas Song," "Fighting Jayhawk," and "76 Trombones." The halftime performance will be conducted by Dr. Paul Popiel, Director of Bands; Matthew O. Smith, Associate Director of Bands/Director of Athletic Bands; and Sharon L. Toulouse, Assistant Director of Bands. Guest conductors include Robert Foster and Thomas Stidham.

The KU Community Music School is enjoying the start of a new year with improvements and additions to the program. Students of all ages will participate in four recitals and two master classes held in Swarthout Recital Hall, along with weekly lessons and bi-weekly studio classes. The school will also take its ambitions beyond KU, entering events held by the Kansas City Music Teachers Association and the American College of Musicians Piano Guild Auditions. Under the tutelage of renowned pedagogue, Dr. Scott McBride Smith, aspiring graduate teaching assistants guide students as they embark on their musical endeavors. Stay tuned...a new Community Music School website will launch within the month!

Thirty-three music students—instrumentalists and vocalists—traveled to Eutin, Germany, this summer to participate in the Eutin Musical Festival and continue the successful music exchange between the KU School of Music and Eutin. The group performed "Nabucco," "L'Elisir d'amore" and "Die Blume von Hawaii," as well as two orchestral concerts and two chamber concerts. Hugo Vera, KU graduate and operatic tenor with the Metropolitan Opera in New York City, also performed in "Nabucco."

The University of Kansas School of Music is pleased to announce the 2012-13 Concert Series, featuring a variety of notable concerts held throughout the year. This concert series is generously sponsored by Reach Out Kansas, Inc., and The Law Offices of Smithyman and Zakoura.

- The series will kick off on September 30 with a performance by the Borromeo String Quartet introducing the world premiere of "The Named Angels" by Mohammed Fairouz, commissioned for the quartet. This performance will take place at the Carlsen Center for the Performing Arts/Polsky Theatre in Overland Park, Kansas.
- Following will be the KU Wind Ensemble performing on November 2 at the Carlsen Center/Yardley Hall, featuring "Rhapsody in Blue" with piano soloist/KU Professor Steven Spooner.
- On November 13 the KU Symphony Orchestra and Choirs will share a stage at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts for the School of Music Scholarship Concert and Bernstein Festival, featuring the works "West Side Story" and "Chichester Psalms."
- The series will carry into March with the KU Jazz Festival Concerts at Free State High School and the KU Piano Concert, an innovative piano showcase at Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.
- The KU Wind Ensemble will travel to New York City March 26 to perform the world premiere of Mohammed Fairouz's "In the Shadow of No Towers" (commissioned for the KU Wind Ensemble) at Carnegie Hall's Isaac Stern Auditorium. Local audiences can take advantage of this concert when a repeat performance is held at the Lied Center on April 2.

**Save the Date! The 13**<sup>th</sup> **annual Collage Concert** will take place at the Lied Center on Friday, September 21, 7:30 PM. Following the concert will be a fundraising reception (ticketed event), with all proceeds benefiting the School of Music Student Opportunity Fund. Come out and celebrate this important concert, showcasing our student and faculty musicians!



Forrest Pierce, associate professor of music composition, was announced as winner of the \$12,000 Barlow Prize given by the Barlow Endowment for Music Composition at Brigham Young University. Pierce rose to the top of 266 international applications to clinch the top spot, receiving the opportunity to compose a major new work for a cappella choir. Pierce's new composition will premiere in 2014 by a consortium of three choirs: the BBC Singers (London), Latvian Radio Choir (Latvia), and Volti (San Francisco).



David Neely, Director of Orchestral Activities and associate professor of conducting, was appointed to the Des Moines Metro Opera as the company's first Music Director and Principal Conductor, effective September 1st, 2012. Neely, an internationally-known conductor, has been the Bruno Walter Associate Conductor with Des Moines Metro Opera since 2010.



Steven Spooner, associate professor of piano, introduced a new recital format on a recent tour in Asia. This new approach was enthusiastically received by critics and audiences in some of Asia's most prestigious concert halls. It was reviewed in the *Straits Times*, Singapore's national newspaper, and the performance took place at the Esplanade. The review can be found at this link: <a href="http://pianofortephilia.blogspot.com/2012/05/steven-spooner-piano-recital-review.html">http://pianofortephilia.blogspot.com/2012/05/steven-spooner-piano-recital-review.html</a>



Scott Watson, professor of tuba-euphonium, was the featured tuba artist on the recent Low Brass Boot Camp, an annual workshop held at the University of Arizona, July 23-27. Watson presented a recital performance of "Tomes of Hardened Steel" by former KU student Ben McMillian, and presented two master classes, clinics on embouchure function and brass banding, while also having private sessions with the twenty tuba students attending the camp. This workshop was started by KU alum Pat Stuckemeyer of Just for Brass, Inc, and Potenza Music. Stuckemeyer, a KU euphonium graduate, was also featured with his chamber ensemble Euphoniz, co-hosts of the workshop. KU euphonium students attending were Kasil Brenner and Erica Gomes.



Cynthia Colwell Dunn, associate professor of music therapy and music education, presented the paper "Reflections on a disability simulation by pre-service music educators and student music therapists" at the International Society for Music Education: Music in Special Education, Music Therapy and Music Medicine Commission, Thessaloniki, Greece, in July.



Vince Gnojek, professor of saxophone, was the featured saxophonist on the opening gala concert of the Singapore Saxophone Symposium July 27-29. He performed a recital of Latin music by composers from Costa Rica, Cuba, and the United States, and music that he has been recording this summer for a new CD. The Singapore Saxophone Symposium included saxophonists from throughout Southeast Asia. Gnojek also served as a member of a panel discussion on new music for saxophone, and gave lessons to several saxophonists. A second performance in Singapore included the *Concertino* by University of Kansas graduate Zechariah Goh with the Nanyang Academy of Fine

Arts Wind Ensemble as a part of the program for the Asia Pacific Bandmasters Association Conference.



In July, **Paul W. Popiel, Director of Bands**, presented a paper entitled, "Recent Band Works of Michael Colgrass: Translating the Traditional into the Artistic," at the 2012 International Society for the Research and Promotion of Wind Music in Coimbra, Portugal. His paper has been selected for publication in the organization's refereed journal, Alta Musica.



**Scott Murphy, associate professor of music theory,** presented a paper "What Does Film Music Sound Like?" on June 28 in Turin, Italy, at the fourth conference of "Music and Media," an official study group within the International Musicological Society.



John Stephens, professor of opera/voice, will direct Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" at the Wichita Grand Opera/WGO for the 2013 season. Stephens will also direct Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Mikado" Winter Opera of St. Louis, and will sing the title role.



Julia Broxholm, associate professor of voice, completed the first phase of her next recording project this summer. The recording will feature 20th and 21st century American song. It is being done in collaboration with Russell Miller, faculty at the Eastman School of Music, and the recording is being done at Eastman in the famed Kilbourn Hall.



The Dean of KU's School of Music, Robert Walzel, conducted the Festival Clarinet Choir in August at ClarinetFest 2012 in Lincoln, Nebraska, on the UNL campus. ClarinetFest is the annual conference of the International Clarinet Association/ICA. Dean Walzel is past president of the ICA.



Ketty Wong, associate professor of ethnomusicology/musicology, conducted fieldwork research on ballroom and salsa dancing in China in June with support from research grants from the School of Music, the Center of East Asian Studies, and the International Programs at the University of Kansas. Professor Wong received a letter of invitation from the Peking University Center of Latin American Studies to continue her research work in Beijing in the summer of 2013. Wong also taught an introductory course on

ethnomusicology within the Master of Music program at the University of Cuenca Faculty of the Arts. This is the fourth time she has taught this course in Ecuador.



Joyce Castle, professor of voice/opera, sang 17 performances of two different roles this past summer at Central City Opera in Colorado. Castle performed the role of Aunt Eller in "Oklahoma" for 15 performances, and sang the role of Baba in Menotti's "The Medium" with the Young Artists.



Alicia Levin, assistant professor of musicology, participated in two conferences this past summer: the 17th Biennial Conference on 19th-Century Music at the University of Edinburgh, where she read a paper about the pianist Emile Prudent; and the Francophone Music Criticism Network meeting at the University of London Institute in Paris, where she read a paper about improvisation in 1820s Paris.



Roberta Freund Schwartz, professor of musicology, traveled to New York City May 20-25 to conduct research at the Sony BMG Archives on a Hall Center Faculty Travel Grant to gather data for her monograph on the city blues from 1925-1942. Schwartz also presented a paper, "Uncle Sam and Aunt Beeb: Roots Music on the BBC," at the annual meeting of the Association of Recorded Sound Collections in Rochester, NY on May 19.



**The International Journal of Research in Choral Singing**, founded at KU by Dr. Jim Daugherty, associate professor of choral/vocal pedagogy, is now the scientific research journal of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). Dr. Tim Sharp, ACDA Executive Director, recently announced an agreement whereby *IJRCS* retains its editorial autonomy with ACDA as publisher. "The American Choral Directors Association is honored to be the publisher of this distinguished research journal," said Sharp. "I envision a twenty-first century ACDA that sets the research and publication agenda for the best thinking, past and present, in choral

music." Dr. Daugherty, who now joins the National Research and Publications Committee of ACDA, continues as *IJRCS* Editor. The journal's international Editorial Board, which includes prominent choral conductors, voice teachers, voice scientists, and acousticians, remains in place. The *IJRCS* editorial office and daily journal operations will continue in Murphy Hall with administrative support from the ACDA national office.

**Brian Scarborough, a trombone student studying with Professor Michael Davidson,** finished a three-week run as trombonist in the Musical Theater Heritage's performances of "The Music Man," at the Off-Center Theater at Crowne Center in Kansas City, MO.



**David Vernon, a percussion student studying with Professor Ji Hye Jung**, recently won a position with The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps.



**Doug Perry, percussion graduate of the KU School of Music,** will be attending Yale School of Music for Artist Diploma in fall 2012. Perry studied with Professor Jung while at KU.

Professor Roberta Freund Schwartz's doctoral student, Kelly Huff, was in Madrid in June to conduct research for her dissertation, "Demystifying Victoria," on the final years and publications of the composer Tomas Luis de Victoria. Huff consulted documents at the Archivo Historical de Protocolos, the Archivo Historical Nacional, and the archives of the royal palace. Her travel was funded by a Hall Center Graduate Summer Research Award and an Andrew Debicki International Travel Award in the Humanities. Huff was also a winner of the humanities division of the Graduate Research Competition this past spring.

**Professor Joyce Castle's students** have stayed busy this past summer. Kristee Haney, a DMA student in voice/opera, took part in the Music Academy of the West in California; Etta Fung, Tara Curtis and Carissa Scroggins sang with the Brevard Festival in North Carolina; Kristin Newbegin and Annalize Sussman sang with the Seagle Music Festival in New York; Madison Mikenna and Katie Meyer sang in Eutin, Germany, for the Eutin Music Festival.

**Sarah Labovitz (DMA wind conducting 2012)** was named Associate Director of Bands and assistant professor of music at Arkansas State University. Labovitz studied with Professor Paul Popiel when at KU.

**Olivia Betzen, a graduate of the voice/opera program,** is beginning her second year in the Specialist in Voice program at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre and Dance. This November she will be singing the role of Donna Anna in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, with the University of Michigan Opera Theatre. Betzen studied with Professor Julia Broxholm when at KU.

Kristen Doering, a piano performance graduate who studied piano with Professor Jack Winerock and vocal literature with Professor Julia Broxholm, will begin her studies in collaborative piano this fall with Margo Garrett at the Juilliard School.

**Regina Tanujaya, a piano student studying with Professor Steven Spooner**, won the top prize at the National Piano Competition of Indonesia. Tanujaya, from Surabaya, Indonesia, was awarded the prize from a 12-member jury panel at the UPH National Piano Competition.

**Musicology PhD student, Spencer Huston,** read at the 17th Biennial Conference on 19th-Century Music in Edinburgh. Huston's paper was about opera fantasies and the pianist Richard Hoffmann. Huston studies with Professor Alicia Levin.

**Pianist Nathanael May, an alumni of the KU School of Music,** won the 2012 American Prize in Piano Performance-solo division, in the professional category. The American Prize is a series of new, non-profit competitions designed to recognize and reward the very best performing artists and ensembles in the U.S. based on recorded performances. May studied with Professor Jack Winerock at KU.

## **UPCOMING PERFORMANCES! DON'T MISS...**

Sep. 5<sup>th</sup> (W)

Ad Astra Percussion Ensemble 6:30 PM Spencer Art Museum Admission Free

Sept. 9 <sup>th</sup>	(Sun)	Alan Hawkins Memorial Service 2:30 PM Swarthout Recital Hall Admission Free
Sep. 11 <sup>th</sup>	(T)	KU Tuba/EuphoniumFEST Grand Recital 7:30 PM Swarthout Recital Hall Admission Free
Sep. 16 <sup>th</sup>	(Sun)	Faculty Virtuosi Series 7:30 PM Swarthout Recital Hall Admission Free
Sep. 17 <sup>th</sup>	(M)	Visiting Artist Series/VAS: Erik Ralske, horn 7:30 PM Swarthout Recital Hall Admission Free
Sep. 21 <sup>st</sup>	(F)	13 <sup>th</sup> Annual Collage Concert 7:30 PM Lied Center Call 785-864-2787 or go to lied.ku.edu for tickets
Sep. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	(Sat)	Faculty Recital Series/FRS: Peter Chun, viola 7:30 PM Swarthout Recital Hall Admission Free
Sep. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	(Sat)	Mini-Concert/CD Release Party: Steven Spooner, piano 1:00 PM Spencer Museum of Art Admission Free
Sep. 24 <sup>th</sup>	(M)	Student Recital Series/SRS: Mark Stotler, organ 7:30 PM Bales Recital Hall Admission Free
Sep. 25 <sup>th</sup>	(T)	KU Symphony Orchestra 7:30 PM Lied Center Call 785-864-2787 or go to lied.ku.edu for tickets
Sep. 26 <sup>th</sup>	(W)	KU Jazz Ensembles I, II, III 7:30 PM Lawrence Arts Center Admission Free
Sep. 27 <sup>th</sup>	(R)	VAS: Dean Sommerville, tuba 7:30 PM Swarthout Recital Hall Admission Free
Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup>	(Sat)	FRS: Jack Winerock, piano 7:30 PM Swarthout Recital Hall Admission Free

Sep. 30<sup>th</sup> (Sun) VAS: Borromeo String Quartet with Peter Chun, viola & Ed Laut, cello

7:00 PM Carlsen Center for the Performing Arts, Polsky

Theatre

Admission Free but tickets required