# WESTERN

Summer 2011 Newsletter



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**Department of Music** *www.wku.edu/music* 

# Sylvia Kersenbaum

### Celebrating an International Performing and Teaching Career

Sylvia Haydee Kersenbaum joined the WKU Department of Music faculty in 1976, was tenured in 1982, retired in 2006 and finished the transitional retirement program in 2011. When she was hired, she was accustomed to giving at least 100 concerts a year in England, Europe and Japan, and was on the concert circuit for 10 years. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the daughter of an Austrian father and an Italian mother, she began musical studies at age 4 with her mother, a violinist, and began playing the piano before she could read and before her feet could touch the pedals.

She holds degrees in performance, pedagogy and composition from the National Conservatory (Buenos Aires), graduating at age 14, and holds Artist Diplomas from both the Academy of Santa Cecilia (Rome) and the Accademia Chigiana (Siena). She studied under Vincente Scaramuzza in Buenos Aires, Guido Agosti in Rome, Nikita Magaloff in Geneva, Hans Graf in Vienna, and made her solo debut in Paris, London and Vienna in the 1971-72 season. Kersenbaum has appeared in recitals and as a soloist with orchestras throughout Europe, the Far East, and North and South America, has appeared as an accompanist for singers and instrumentalists, has conducted masterclasses in international and national venues and is a Steinway Artist.



Her performances with noted orchestras include the London Symphony, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, München Philharmoniker, Bayerische Staatskapella, Orchestra de la Suisse Romande (Geneva), San Francisco Symphony, BBC Northern Symphony, Tonhalle Orchestra (Zurich), Orchestra National del O.R.T.F. (Paris), New Zealand Symphony

phony Orchestra, Osaka Philharmonic, Orquesta de la UNAM (Mexico), Bournemouth Symphony, Tokyo Philharmonic, Toledo Symphony, The Symphony @ WKU and Louisville Orchestra.

Her recordings for the EMI-Angel label have won major international press acclaim. Her CD version of Tchaikovsky's Concerto Op. 44 was included in the EMI Europe and Liszt Hexameron Series of the 100 Virtuosi of the 20th Century set. She has recorded works by Beethoven, Chopin, Brahms, Paganini, Tchaikovsky, Liszt, Weber, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Granados, Glinka, Schumann, Franck, Scriabin, Berg, Mozart, Ginastera, Rachmaninoff, Bach, Grieg, Dohnanyi, De Falla, Gershwin, Hindemith, Haydn, Janacek, Piazzola, Ravel and Strauss.

Her awards include the Best
Performer during the 2004 Concert
Season from the music critics in
Argentina, the WKU Faculty Award
for Research and Creative Activity in
1990, honorary membership in the
Beethoven Society for Pianists in 1990,
listed in Who's Who in the World,
a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor
Society and the 1999 KONEX Award in
Buenos Aires as the Outstanding Per-

former of the Last Decade.

Students, critics and university officials have recognized her talent. In a 1978



letter from the late Dr. Dero Downing, "She has continued to reflect credit upon the Department of Music and has contributed significantly to the cultural, educational and social life of the University community."

A music critic on her recordings by Chopin, "As a Chopin interpreter she is a forceful, intense artist: every phrase counts, each point is a part of a grand totality, nothing is thrown away...The final impression remains one of authority and stylistic conviction." WKU students contribute, "I've learned more in the past four years from her than I have ever in my entire life. With unconditional gratitude...; Her strict discipline and yet sense of humor has made my lessons wonderful; She imparts an intelligent and artistic interpretation in her teaching."

She has played the Beethoven

32- piano Sonata cycle twice (1989-90 and 2003-2004), "A Journey Through Beethoven's Life," whose compositions dates from 1795-1822. Even though she has had longstanding visual problems for the past thirty years, her extraordinary ear and memorization ability has more than made up for the vision issues. Anyone who performs the complete Beethoven piano sonatas is in a special class. Memorization alone involves more than 700 pages of music. She has memorized all of the music that she has performed, as well as played harp with orchestras.

As a result of her love of composition, she composed the music for Edgar Allan Poe's compelling story, "The Masque of the Red Death," about a deadly plague, a city with no name and no time, which premiered as a ballet in October 2001 in collaboration with the WKU Department of Theatre and Dance and The Symphony @ WKU. She was featured in a recent WKYU-PBS program, "An Evening with Sylvia Kersenbaum," which was nominated for an Ohio Valley Regional Emmy Award. The program was an intimate concert that explored her talent as a pianist, with beautiful performances of Debussy and Haydn, as well as interviews that gave a glimpse of her love of music.

In 2002, the WKU student music fraternity, Delta Omicron, established a scholarship in her name, which was first awarded in 2005. Recipients of the Kersenbaum Scholarship have been Jessica Carmichael, Rachel Norton, Rachel Stewart, Aleshia Akin, Melissa Gensler and Ellen Murrey.

Her time on the Hill in the Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center has been valued greatly by the University community and the Department of Music. The end of an era is here, but her musicianship and talent will long be remembered and cherished.

#### Imani Winds Fellowship Award

Madelyn Cook, sophomore integrated music education (horn) major from Portland, TN, has been selected to participate in the Imani Winds Fellowship Program, a program for a select group of high level musicians who wish to have wind quintet/sextet as an integral part of their careers. This highly-acclaimed quintet, Imani Winds, recently per-

formed on the WKU campus, at which time they met Ms. Cook during a masterclass session.

This program from July 27 – August 6, 2011, held at Juilliard in New York City includes:

- Regular rehearsals and intense training within an assigned ensemble with culminating performances
- Full mentorship with Imani Winds, complete with regular coachings and participation in both solo/chamber music masterclasses



L to R: Spencer Wills, Matt White, Matt Lund, Amy Spears, Erin Austin, Ellen Murrey

#### A

#### Pi Kappa Lambda Inductees

Six students, selected by the Department faculty, were inducted in the WKU Theta Eta Chapter of Pi Kappa Lambda, a national honorary music society. These new members were selected based on academic achievement, musical skill and stellar character, with membership being extended to the highest ranking students from senior and graduate classes.





**Performers of the Semester, Spring 2011** Front row L to R: Matt Lund (woodwinds), Amanda Ledford (voice), John Woods (voice); Seated: Nick Hall and Michael Menser (guitar); Standing: Justin Kirby (piano), Daniel McKillip (percussion), Madelyn Cook (brass), Steven Stewart (strings). The Performer of the Semester was Amanda Ledford.



Brass Choir @ Commencement

#### Department of Music 2010-2011 Graduates

#### Master's Degree

Erin Barger
Danny Benson
Amberly Bush
Grant Calvert
Jin-Hui Jang
Travis Miller
Megan Puckett
Richard Rue
Adam Vincent
Selena Walker

#### **Bachelor's Degree**

Erin Austin, flute, BA Holly Barnes\*, percussion, BM Trish Beresford\*\*\*, voice, BM Chelsea Boston\*\*, voice, BM Zachary Culp, double bass, BA Andrew Cusick\*\*, voice, BA Laura Beth Galipeau, piano, BA Chelsea Garrison, clarinet, BM Jessica Gerbholz\*, voice, BM Kevin Goodnight, trumpet, BM Ashley Grueter\*, cello, BM Dan Hall, trumpet, BM Hannah Hall\*\*, voice, BA Kelsey Hinton\*\*\*, voice, BM Keith Kinder, trombone, BA Travis Lowe, voice, BM Jessica Mays, clarinet, BM Gregory McCord\*\*\*, voice, BM Raeanne McKendree\*, voice, BM Ellen Murrey\*\*\*, voice, BM Lauren O'Brien\*^, piano, BA Kelsey Paschetto\*\*, voice, BM Kristina Rasmussen\*\*\*, piano, BM Carolyn Rutter\*\*, voice, BM Kendra Sanders, clarinet, BM Matt White\*\*, trombone, BM Ian Wilder, trumpet, BM Spencer Wills\*, bassoon, BM

### DAVID GIBSON 2010 WALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



David Paul Gibson, a native of Louisville, Kentucky, has been active in the arts and education communities as a teacher on the high school and college levels, conductor, composer, vocal performer, theatre artist, church musician and arts administrator. Gibson holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education degree and Master of Music in Vocal Performance degree from Western Kentucky University, where he performed numerous operatic roles, including Marcello, Figaro, Germont, Peter Abelard, and Rigo-

letto, while studying voice under Ohm Pauli and Virgil Hale. While a student, Gibson composed, staged and conducted his first opera, Antony and Cleopatra, for its world premiere at WKU. He was the founder and first conductor of the Southern Kentucky Opera Guild and the Bowling Green Community Chorus, as well as the Opera Theatre of Owensboro, served as artistic director of the Old Rockport Civic Theater for seven seasons and, during the course of his career, has designed, directed and conducted over one hundred productions of opera, musical theater and drama ranging from Puccini's La Boheme to the works of Tennessee Williams and Lerner & Lowe. In 1983, the National Endowment for the Arts selected Gibson as a Spoleto Fellow at the Festival of Two Worlds, where he assisted its director Gian-Carlo Menotti. In 1989, Gibson was chosen to address the general body of the International Wagner Symposium held at the Juilliard School in New York. As a singer, he performed on the concert and operatic stages throughout the United States, Europe and locally with the Kentucky Opera, the Louisville Orchestra, the Evansville Philharmonic, and the Louisville Bach Society. Gibson's major compositions include the operas, Antony and Cleopatra, Medea and Verlaine and Rimbaud (featured at the Bibliothèque historique de la ville de Paris and in Charleville-Mézières, France); the major sacred works, An Easter Tryptic, Requiem, and Te Deum; the song cycles, The Whitman Fragments, Three Lenten Songs, and Three Shakespeare Sonnets; and numerous anthems and incidental pieces. In 2008 the The Symphony @ WKU commissioned and premiered his composition, In Celebration of Music, for its centennial season. He has served as director of music at several churches throughout his career, including The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green, and has served as adjunct faculty in WKU's Department of Music.

<sup>\*</sup>cum laude

<sup>\*\*</sup>magna cum laude

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>summa cum laude

<sup>^</sup>Honors program graduate

### **ALUMNI ACCOLADES**

Carrie Barnette, '95, is the national director of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, a non-profit music and movement education organization with more than 4,000 members, and is the mother of two boys, Chase (age 5) and Callan (age 2).

Chelsea Boston, '11, will begin her teaching career in the Fall of 2011 in Brownsville, Texas, as the assistant choir director at Manzano Middle School. Will Armour, '09, will begin his teaching career in the Fall of 2011 in Brownsville, Texas, as the choir director at Pace High School. Will and Chelsea will celebrate a wedding in July 2011 before they move to Texas.



Andrea Brown, '99 & '02, married William Nance on June 11, 2011.

**Jessica Carmichael**, '06, married Adam Horner on June 12, 2011.



Lauren Carr, '10, is a recent graduate of Minnesota State College- Southeast Technical with a diploma in Band Instrument Repair. She is the new flute repair technician for Miyazawa Flutes in Coralville, IA.



Adrienne Hayes, '09, finished her Masters degree in Cultural Communication and Finance at L'Institut d'Etudes Superieures des Arts in Paris,

France. She has interned at Florence Brunel artistic agency (baroque musique) in Paris since September 2010 and thanks to her experiences and contacts, she will be opening her own agency soon. She organized a flute festival in May/June 2011 in Paris, is the President of the association MUSIQUE A LA RONDO and will be traveling to Turkey to research her second project.

Hollye (Cheatham) Hornsby, '05, will be the music specialist at Lincoln Trail Elementary School, Elizabethtown, KY. Justin Hornsby, '05, has recently become the Worship Pastor at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, KY. The Hornsby's are proud parents of 3 children, aged 1, 4 and 9 yrs. old.

Jamie (Rone) Hunt, '03, resides in Austin, Texas, with her husband Jeremy. She is enrolled at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas, and is pursuing a Master's Degree in Flute Performance. As a member of the top Wind Ensemble, she performed at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention (TMEA) in February as well as the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) Conference in Seattle, Washington. Hunt auditioned for and was accepted into the National Flute Association's Professional Flute Choir Competition which will be held in August 2011 in Charlotte, NC.

Melissa (Gensler) Keeling, '10, continues as a teaching assistant at Middle Tennessee State University, pursuing a degree in flute performance. In October 2010, she



and Lee Michael Keeling released their first solo CD of original avant-garde compositions for the electric flute and guitar; the CD, "sanik," is available on iTunes. Melissa and Michael have created a series of instructional and music videos, viewable on YouTube. She performed solo at the 2011 MidSouth Flute Festival and presented a solo recital at MTSU in April, 2011. Melissa was married to Michael Lee Keeling in June, 2011.

Mary Alice (Ratzlaff) Kolko, '06, currently in Chico, California, performs locally and throughout the northern California region with various chamber groups, as well as in the Camellia

ber groups, as well as in the Camellia Symphony in Sacramento. She is especially active with her flute and harp duo, *Dihanye*.

Christina McCarl, '08, teaches elementary music, chorus, handbells and middle school band at Greensboro Academy, a National Heritage Charter School in North Carolina.

**Gregory McCord**, '10, will be the choir director at Allen County High School and Bazzell Middle School in Scottsville, Kentucky.



David Phillips, '08, is the proud father of a new baby girl, Ella Jane.

**Casey (Allmon) Powell**, '06, teaches 7th and 8th grade general music at Barren County Middle School in Glasgow, KY.

She is now tenured and has just started BCMS's first string orchestra. Her hopes are that this is just a stepping stone to developing a districtwide string program in Glasgow. She also stays involved with many activities before and after school such as Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Trojan Extreme guitar and piano lessons, and individual string instruction. In her spare time,

she goes head-to-head with some of the state's toughest skaters while playing roller derby with Bowling Green's Vette City Vixens.

Kallie Rogers, '10, continues as a graduate assistant at Middle Tennessee State University. In January, she assisted in coordinating the annual MTSU Flute Festival, and she was also invited to perform at the "Local Artists Recital" for the 2011 Mid-South Flute Festival in Nashville, TN. This summer, she will serve as a counselor, flute sectional teacher, and certified health care provider for the Southern Winds Concert Band, a Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp International Exchange group. The ensemble will tour Germany, Holland, and France.

Chris Westover, '08, is the Music Director of the Civic Orchestra at the Univ. of Oklahoma where he also teaches undergraduate conducting courses. He is pursuing the DMA in Orchestral Conducting at OU, and is the founder and Artistic Director of an innovative, new-music orchestra in Dallas, Texas, Sound and Silence. (www.sound-silence.org) He resides in Norman, Oklahoma, where he enjoys gardening and model building in the summer months.



 $Chris\,We stover\,is\,the\,Music\,Director\,of\,the\,Civic\,Orchestra\,at\,the\,University\,of\,Oklahoma$ 



Spencer Wills, '11, will be the music specialist at Bristow Elementary School in Warren County.

Amir Zaheri,
'01, will be the
commissioned
composer
for the 2012
Kentucky Music
Educators Association All-State
Junior High
Mixed Choir,



for SATB voices and solo viola, to be premiered in Louisville, KY in February 2010. He was chosen to receive the prestigious Narramore Fellowship by the University of Alabama School of Music faculty. Zaheri's composition, I Love My Friend, performed by Conundrum, was selected for performance at the NewNowNorse 2011 New Music Festival in March 2011. held at Northern Kentucky University. His new opera was premiered at the University of Alabama's Opera Theatre in March 2011 in Tuscaloosa, AL. Zaheri performed Michael Kallstrom's You Might Like to Hear My Organ at the 2010 Society of Composers, Inc. National Conference in November 2010, hosted by the University of South Carolina School of Music. He was a selected composer for the Fresno New Music Festival in California in November 2010, where his piece for soprano and piano, What Lips My Lips Have Kissed, was performed by Conundrum New Music Ensemble members Mary Elizabeth Southworth, soprano, and Philip Amalong, piano.



Ronale, one of Sarah Berry's former students, helps to recruit for String Explosion! summer camp



The WKU Jazz Bands under the direction of Marshall Scott had a wonderful year of performances with outstanding guest soloists and clinicians, Chris Vadala, saxophone, John Blount, trumpet, and Jamey Aebersold with the jazz quartet. The jazz program continues to expand and now offers two Jazz Bands and the already existing Jazz Improvisation course.

### The Year in Review

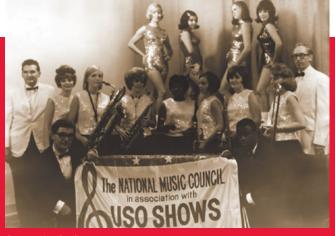


Pre-college string students perform with collegiate string students at Jackson's Orchard in September

WKU Wind Ensemble in Costa Rica, July 2011

The choral program at WKU continues to grow, culminating this year with a May 2011 performance entitled "And the Song am I... a celebration of American choral Music." This concert featured performances from all ensembles on campus, and concluding numbers with the entire choral program, now numbering approximately 225. The Chorale Fall Tour included stops at several high schools, including Meade County, John Hardin and Shelby County. Major works performed included Brahms Schicksalslied and Nänie, and Dvorak's Te Deum.





Gemini 14 Jazz Band



1934 Women's Glee Club

### From the Archives



1973 dedication of the Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center

2010 Big Red Marching Band

1933 Marching Band

Jennifer Adam, choral music education, is a newly-appointed tenure-track assistant professor of music at WKU where she will direct the women's choir, teach music education courses and music theory and observe student teachers. She is the co-advisor of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) student chapter as well as beginning to enroll a community children's chorus under the outreach of the Bowling Green Western Choral Society. Prior to her appointment at Western, she taught in elementary, middle, and high schools in Pennsylvania. She is passionate about children's choirs, having served as the director of the Chorale of the Berks Classical Children's Chorus (Reading, PA) for six years. She received a bachelor's degree in Music Education (vocal) and violin performance from Wilkes University, a masters degree in choral conducting and vocal performance from Temple University and a doctorate in conducting from the University of South Carolina.

Heidi Álvarez, flute, gave her European debut in the Summer of 2011 as a flute soloist and clinician in Paris, France, where she premiered a new work for solo flute, The Falling Cinders of Time by WKU composer and Distinguished University Professor, Michael Kallstrom. The Parisian concert tour and music festival, Rondo à la flûte, was created and organized by WKU flute alumna Adrienne Hayes ('09), who completed her masters degree at the l'Institut d'Études Supérieures des Arts. Álvarez performed as a soloist with the WKU Band on their Costa Rica performance tour in June/July 2011.



### Faculty Music Makers

Sarah Berry, cello, directed the first annual Symphony String Contest for Bowling Green string students and coordinated the annual String Finale Concert for over 370 students. She directed the Drakes Creek Middle School Orchestra who earned Distinguished ratings at the KMEA Concert Festival and at the KMEA Solo & Ensemble Festival. Performances this year included a Col Legno duo recital with Mark Berry and several concerts with the Baker Chamber Players. Sarah and Mark also welcomed their second child, Erik Glenn, who was born on August 9, 2010.

John Cipolla, clarinet & saxophone, is president of the International Clarinet Association. Cipolla was awarded a sabbatical in the Spring 2011, during which time he presented a lecture/ recital of the Carl Nielsen clarinet concerto, performed at the NACWPI 2011 National Conference, presented clinics at various high schools and colleges in Kentucky, Tennessee and Montana, and completed a clarinet scale/exercise book. Cipolla has been invited to the Latin American Clarinet Congress in Lima, Peru, to present a recital, master class and serve as a competition judge. He performed as a soloist with the WKU Band on their Costa Rica performance tour in June/ July 2011.

Mitzi Groom, department head, has completed her term as President of the Kentucky Association of College Music Departments (KACMD) and continues to serve as a visiting evaluator and Accreditation Commissioner for the National Association of Schools of Music.

Paul Hondorp, director of choral activities, completed his term as Southern Division ACDA Chair for Repertoire and Standards (College/University) by conducting a portion of the reading session at the National Convention in Chicago. His article "Scholarly Editions of Choral Music: An Interview with Martin Banner" was published in three divisional ACDA newsletters. He continues to work as a tenor, in performances in with a newly-formed professional vocal ensemble, Vox Humana, with performances this summer in the Nashville area, and on the Liturgical Arts Series at the Presbyterian Church (Beethoven's Scottish Songs). Vox Humana will appear in the near future on the Naxos label.

#### IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Kent Campbell, former WKU band director, 1931-2011

Jennifer Cromer, '07 WKU alum, 1981-2011

Weston Ford, '01 WKU alum, 1976-2010

Dr. Virgil Hale, former WKU opera director, 1927-2010

James "Roy" Jones, former WKU choral director, 1932-2011

Dr. Lisa Murrell, '89 & '92 WKU alum, 1967-2011

Deloris Trammel, former Office Associate, 1953-2011

Michael Kallstrom, theory and composition, had international performances of his compositions in Australia, Poland and France this past year. His sonata for organ was performed for the International Conference of the Society of Composers in Columbia, SC, by WKU Department of Music alum, Amir Zaheri. Kallstrom premiered a new work featuring electronic music and his own animated videos, LIFE IS DREAMING, at WKU and sections of the work were also performed at Augustana College and by thingNY at the LaGuardia Performing Arts Center in New York City. His horn quartets are the subject of a recently published doctoral dissertation at the University of Alabama.

Kristin Polk, oboe and bassoon, and Ben Polk, music appreciation, were selected to perform at the International Double Reed Society convention in Tempe, Arizona, in May 2011. They performed September Canticles by Mark Scott for English horn and bass trombone, a piece they commissioned in 2008. They both performed with the North Texas Wind Symphony in June 2011 and recorded the music for Teaching Music Through Performance in Band, Volume 8, Grade 4, as a part of the GIA series.

Wayne Pope, voice coordinator/opera theatre director, took his Fantasies, Frogs and Fairytales recital on the road to North Carolina, Memphis (Rhodes College) and Missouri, where he presented a masterclass and choral clinic at Mineral Area College. Other performances included Dvorak's Te Deum with the Bowling Green Western Choral Society, a reprise of his role as Santa with The Symphony @ WKU, recital duets with his favorite soprano, Beth Pope, and a solo recital entitled, The Lies We Tell. Pope served his second year as Governor of the KY National Association of Teachers of Singing, presided over student auditions at Berea College and assisted at the Mid-South Regional Auditions.

**Bill Scott**, orchestra director, guest conducted the symphony orchestra at New England Music Camp during its 74th Season, served as adjudicator for the KMEA District 12 Orchestra Festival in Jefferson County, and presented a conducting workshop at Dorman High School in Spartanburg, SC.

Marshall Scott, trumpet, had an active and fun year performing eighteen Christmas Shows over six weekends in Elkins, West Virginia, at the American Mountain Theatre. The show was a "Branson Style" presentation featuring a wide variety of popular musical styles and including many performers who have performed as leading Nashville and Las Vegas Headliners. He was a judge for the Collegiate Trumpet Jazz Improvisation Competition for the International Trumpet Guild. Marshall Scott's and John Martin's latest CD IMS Jazz Duo received a favorable review in the October 2010 of the International Trumpet Guild Journal.

Mary Wolinski, music history and literature, organized trips to the Nashville Opera to see Umberto Giordano's Andrea Chénier and Georges Bizet's Carmen. Over 100 students and faculty took part in these opera opportunities from WKU. She read a paper at the 46th International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, MI, in May 2011, titled "Ferial Office Chants in Flanders, Paris, and Liège: A Study in Local Tastes." This summer she participated in the Medieval and Renaissance Music Conference in Barcelona, Spain, presenting her paper, "The Case of the Disappearing Rests: A New Look at the Spanish In Seculum Hocket in Madrid, BNE, Ms 20486."

### DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Larnelle Harris, '69 WKU alum, was inducted into the Kentucky Country Music Hall of Fame in April 2011. This prestigious induction into the Hall of Fame is visible at http://youtu.be/3dXBGugDVkc. While he was at WKU, he studied voice with Ohm Pauli and played in Doc Livingston's Gemini Band 14. Harris was the first inductee into the WKU Department of Music Wall of Fame in 1997. He was recently featured in the Potter College of Arts and Letters Magazine, found online at http://epagepub.com/publication/?i=45056. The Department of Music is very proud of his accomplishments over his life's career, and very appreciative of the new scholarship that he and his wife, Cynthia, have endowed, with the first recipient to be selected for Fall of 2011.





David Lee, Dean, Potter College of Arts and Letters; Mitzi Groom, Head, Department of Music; Larnelle Harris





Greg Lyons, '81 & '86 WKU alum, and Paula (Wells) Lyons, '81 & '86 WKU alum, have been the owners of Royal Music in Bowling Green, KY, since 1991. Royal Music is the only school music store west of Lexington, being located on State Street in Bowling Green since 1964. In 2011, the business relocated to Cambridge Square on Fairview Avenue, boasting the same intuitive service and an expansive facility with improved parking. The Lyons have been loyal supporters of the Department of Music for many years, offering the use of instruments for methods classes, contributing to the Music Foundation fund and being a sponsor for symphony concerts. They have been integral in helping the area achieve the public school string instruction success by keeping an inventory stocked with appropriately-sized instruments and music, as well as taking these instruments to many schools for the children to experience firsthand the joy of playing an instrument. The Department of Music is most appreciative of their contributions to the department and to the community, and thanks them for being one of the game-changers for music education in the Commonwealth.



Bennie Beach, Sr., and Pearl Beach have recently added funds to the Bennie Beach, Jr., Memorial Scholarship that will fund a scholarship for a second student, beginning in the Fall of 2011. The Beaches have played a very important part in the life of the Department of Music, contributing to this scholarship, attending numerous concerts each year and being part of the annual activities that are memorable for music students. Bennie, an emeritus faculty member of the WKU Department of Music and a 2006 WKU Centennial Composer, was presented with the Orpheus Award in 2011 by the band, and enjoyed hearing one of his compositions performed by the Brass Choir at the dedication of Ransdell Hall

There is a need for celebration in the Department of Music this year. In the midst of academic fiscal stress and crisis, the department continues to move forward, in terms of content quality, student recruitment and facilities. Two students will be awarded new scholarships in the Fall of 2011, the Larnelle and Cynthia Harris Scholarship and the Bennie Beach, Jr., Memorial Scholarship.

The faculty is very aware of the need to increase student retention, and their efforts are succeeding. A new Master of Music degree is in the offing, with only one more hurdle to clear before implementation, hopefully in the Fall of 2012. This new degree will have four tracks: music education (teacher certification), conducting (teacher certification), conducting, and pedagogy. With great excitement we anticipate the completion of the new music hall in

### GROOM'S GRAFFITI



New music hall construction site, L to R: David Lee, Marshall Scott, Gary Schallert, Jeff Bright, Mitzi Groom, Paul Hondorp, Joe Stites, Mina Doerner

December 2011, with student and faculty move-in occurring in January 2012. When the move-in is complete, renovation to the FAC Recital Hall and the Band Room will occur, with expected completion in the Spring of 2012. We are very appreciative of the support that our admin-

istrators have shown as these new programs and facilities take shape and move the department forward. Your contributions as donors are greatly appreciated as we see more of our students benefiting from your generosity, knowing that each gift counts. Thanks are extended to our donors for allowing us to be part of your lives.

Mitzi Groom
Department of Music, Head



## Friends

The Department of Music is honored to have the philanthropic support of our friends and alumni, whose gifts result in degree completion statistics for many of our students.

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Mr. Amir Zaheri

Mrs. Gail B. Dixon

Ms. Mildred Kemp Dockstader

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Dodd



Dr. Groom, Andrew Tucker (Music Dept. Faculty Scholarship recipient), Dr. Lee

# Ongoing Legacies 2010-2011 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

#### Jerry Baker Scholarship

Alyna Atkinson, violin, Fairbanks, AK Johnny Smith, viola, Lewisport, KY

**Bennie Beach, Jr., Memorial Scholarship**Curtis Turner, percussion, Rockport, IN

#### Jean Blankenship Scholarship

Erich Haynes, guitar, Clarkson, KY Nicholas Hall, guitar, Louisville, KY

#### **Bowling Green Music Club Scholarship**

Ellen Murrey, voice, Glasgow, KY Matt White, trombone, Bowling Green, KY

#### Athena Cage Scholarship

Matt Crocker, trombone, Franklin, KY Kristina Rasmussen, piano, Versailles, KY

#### **Kent Campbell Scholarship**

Taylor Akin, euphonium, Magnolia, KY

#### Howard Carpenter String and Piano Scholarship

Josh Bloecher, violin, Fulton, KY Justin Kirby, piano, Lewisburg, KY

#### Blanche and Austin Duckett Strings Music Scholarship

Samantha Miller, violin, Sedalia, KY Jackson Talley, violin, Princeton, KY Anderson Adams, cello, Lexington, KY Elias Kleinsmith, violin, Louisville, KY

#### Mitzi Groom/Trace Die Cast Scholarship

Nathaniel Brown, organ, Bowling Green, KY

#### Sylvia Kersenbaum Scholarship

Ellen Murrey, voice, Glasgow, KY

#### Music Department Faculty Scholarship

lan Wilder, trumpet, Louisville, KY Andrew Tucker, horn, Hodgenville, KY Chris Blake, trumpet, Greenville, KY Guytano Martorano, tuba, Cleaton, KY

#### **Hugh F. Johnson Scholarship**

Josh Bloecher, violin, Fulton, KY

#### **Ohm Pauli Scholarship**

Alyna Atkinson, violin, Fairbanks, AK Josh Bloecher, violin, Fulton, KY Susan Houghton, cello, Bowling Green, KY Johnny Smith, viola, Lewisport, KY Liz Ward, double bass, San Antonio, TX

#### **Edward J. Pease Memorial Scholarship**

Spencer Wills, bassoon, Louisville, KY Matt Lund, saxophone, Lagrange, KY Wyatt Rossell, guitar, Bowling Green, KY Michael Menser, guitar, Dawson Springs, KY

#### **Charles W. Smith Scholarship**

Valerie Martin, flute, Bowling Green, KY

#### Seymour Spiegelman Scholarship

Blake Cox, voice, Brandenburg, KY

#### Dr. Samuel W. and Jeane Payne Tinsley Music Scholarship

Susan Houghton, cello, Bowling Green, KY

#### Marita Hawley Travelstead Scholarship

Julia Fisher, voice, Louisville, KY Kate Douglas, voice, Owensboro, KY

#### **Nelle Gooch Travelstead Scholarship**

Travis Lowe, voice, Rockfield, KY

#### **Vitale String Scholarship**

Ashley Grueter, cello, Ashland City, KY Johnny Smith, viola, Lewisport, KY



Former WKU President, Dr. Dero Downing and former music faculty member Nelle Gooch Travelstead

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#### 2011 FACULTY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Join us for our annual scholarship benefit recital, Autumn Collage: Chamber Music on the Hill at the FAC Recital Hall, October 2, 2011, at 3:00 p.m., with reception following.

