Da Capo is the annual alumni magazine of the University of South Carolina School of Music.

HAVE NEWS?
Send your alumni updates to ewoodoff@mozart.sc.edu.

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On the cover: Students of composition and chamber music work with elementary school students.

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A Message from Dean Tayloe Harding

The 2013-14 school year at the School of Music was one that contained more than its share of meaningful events. On the pages of DaCapo you will read about many of these student and faculty accomplishments, program and ensemble milestones, and alumni achievements of great note about which we can all take pride. These distinguish our school, our people and our art for now and for the future in ways we cannot calculate or predict – this is part of the majesty and mystery of music that motives and captivates us. What you see here is the realization of the promise of music.

What you do not see on these pages in any great detail is the poignant way we must honor those whose work on the promise of music at our beloved school is now marked only in legacy rather than in a continual participation. In this past year we lost many people from the USC School of Music community – though every one of them were contributors to our School’s success it is not possible to illuminate all of them and all of their consequential actions on behalf of our School.

Having said that, though, and keeping in mind that 2013-14 was special, I feel compelled to mention six of these people as they were treasured by our ranks and in many ways modeled the essence of our School, what it is we strive to be, and what the pages of this edition of Da Capo recount for all see. The six of them passed away consecutively in the first six months of our year, and four of them were great friends to and/or distinguished alums of the School of Music. William Turner was a young man of enormous talent and character whose passing in February at such a young age was hard on everyone. William exemplified the power of music to enrich lives in enumerable ways. He chose not to make music his vocation in life, but instead he maintained it as his inspiration, one that he shared with his lovely family and with everyone for whom they performed.

Everett Summerall, an Aiken resident, fine organist, passionate music lover, and generous donor to the School who has helped endow our organ program with his gifts, passed away in January.

Perhaps one of this School’s most important music alumna ever, Betty Ann Darby, was the consummate music leader. Her dedication to the art, focus on education in music, and commitment to excellence in doing so at all times and all levels was a powerful influence on countless South Carolinians. From her home in Florence, to St. Matthews, to all over the state for more than 70 years, it is not an exaggeration to say that Betty Ann Darby was perhaps South Carolina’s greatest music educator off all time. She died in December. Cornelia Freeman was a Columbia music icon. Attending every one of the more than 100 concerts in our faculty chamber music series named after her as a result of gifts from her legions of friends over the years, she remained steadfastly supportive of our efforts to bring great music to more and more people well into her 102nd year of life – she devoted her entire epic life to it before passing in November.

Fred Teuber and Bob Pruzin were members of our faculty, one who had retired and one who was planning to retire. The teaching, work and friendship of Fred Teuber, emeritus professor of music theory and composition, influenced hundreds of students over the years – the stories of his constancy to his students and their musical journeys are indeed impressive and continued in earnest right up until his death in September. Robert S. Pruzin, associate dean and professor of horn at USC was indeed a distinctive and extraordinary man. His untimely and entirely heartbreaking passing in October was challenging for all of us. When one of our young people emerges from this school with one of our degrees and hopes to him or herself become a teacher of music, it is the example of Bob Pruzin that they should model. He was not only invested in the success of his students in a way largely unmatched in our profession, he also displayed a great and enigmatic mix of tough and soft love for them and for his colleagues that was unique and inspirational at the highest level.

We are sad to bid farewell to so many giants from our musical firmament at Carolina. But we are reminded how grateful we are to have known them, to have had them impact us, and to have had them shape the instruction and experiences of those many, many to come at the School by what all six achieved and contributed during their many years of loyal service. Forever to thee, our dear friends!
Finding Beautiful Musical Moments in Education Partnerships
This past year has been rich in meaningful partnerships with elementary schools. Carolina students inspired children by sharing their passion for music. Students from Joseph Keels Elementary and St. Peter’s Catholic School inspired undergrads with their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn.

Dr. Wendy Valerio and USC’s Children’s Music Development Center have been bringing music programs to St. Peter’s for 16 years. This year a new initiative provided beginning music composition students at USC an opportunity to experience collaboration and real deadlines. Students of Dr. Mandy Fang’s beginning composition class composed arrangements for the school’s Christmas program. St. Peters students met the musicians and composers and were introduced to live chamber music ensembles, learning about what it takes to be a performer and composer.

The composition assignment required Carolina students to write original compositions and arrangements for the school’s full student body chorus, working within the deadlines and parameters of the program. The audience enthusiastically received the resulting Christmas program, but the real joy was the journey getting there together.

Students at Joseph Keels Elementary School got a thrill when they met Joshua Bell and heard him in concert in Atlanta. The 20 fourth and fifth graders take part in a violin program started this year through a partnership with the USC String Project and JKE, funded, in part, by the Hootie and the Blowfish Foundation and the Central Carolina Community Foundation.

The partnership, a vision of Mrs. Alvera Butler, JKE’s principal, and Dr. Gail Barnes, USC’s music education professor, was launched to provide underserved students with violin instruction and concurrently to provide music education undergraduates experience in teaching children with diverse backgrounds.

JKE is a Title 1 school with a high concentration of students whose parents may not have the means to fund this extra activity. Students in the program have not only learned to play an instrument, they have also learned how to work and collaborate with others as part of a team, enhancing their communication and social skills.

Dr. Barnes hopes to expand the program to other high-need schools in the area that lack early access to stringed instrument instruction.
The Fourth Wall
hybrid arts ensemble

www.TheFourthWallEnsemble.com
@4thWallEnsemble

SPARK’S LEADERS
Rebecca Schalk Nagel - director, Spark
David Cutler - director, Music Entrepreneurship
Ellen Douglas Schlaefer - associate director, Spark

Learn more about Spark Lab at www.sc.edu/music/spark
Spark Report

Now in its second year known as Spark, the School’s leadership laboratory is making its mark as an incubator for music entrepreneurs. Programs of Spark: Carolina’s Music Leadership Laboratory are all about innovation, community and success and provide students with tools and resources to help them forge successful careers in the music field. Students graduating with the new music entrepreneurship minor in May were the first students in the U.S. to graduate with this distinction.

The second annual Savvy Musician in Action summer workshop and Chamber Music Competition brought 60 attendees from 19 states and three countries to USC for four days of high energy, high impact experiential learning in June. The workshop teaches the skills necessary to make one’s way in the world of professional music. This year’s notable faculty included Howard Herring, executive director of New World Symphony; Margaret Lioi, Chamber Music America CEO; Ranaan Meyer, Time for Three bassist; Kimball Gallagher, pianist and entrepreneur; and Ariel Hyatt, social media guru.

Artistic excellence and innovative event design were the criteria for the national Chamber Music Competition. The five winning ensembles played to a packed hall at Tapp’s Art Center during the city’s First Thursday event. Free Times editor Dan Cook wrote in his column the next day, “To put it bluntly — and this is only a slight exaggeration — last night, Columbia was the epicenter of the classical revolution.”

C Street Brass, the 2013 Chamber Music Competition winner, was on campus in March for a mini-residency and will be in residence again in 2014–2015 for a brass master class, composer readings, seminar, entrepreneurship class, and a concert and cameos around campus and Columbia, thanks to a Visiting Scholars grant, funded by the office of the Provost.

In collaboration with the Music Library and community arts leaders, a Career Fair provided practical information about 40 different music careers to 200 students. The fair was the culmination of a week of career-oriented talks with most of the music faculty participating. Out in the community, Spark students presented activities at EdVenture Children's Museum, St. Peter’s Catholic School and student musicians and composers performed original music to accompany a reading at the Children’s Story Hour at the Richland County Library.

Grad School Friday events provided workshops on summer festivals, the art of auditioning, strategies for picking the right grad school program, crafting applications, resumes and portfolios, and savvy approaches to preparing for diagnostic music history, theory and ear-training exams. Performance anxiety and branding were covered during Discussion over Dinner programs. Ice packs were made available for students’ aches and pains, and innovative pianist Kimiko Ishizaka presented a concert, seminar and class about strategies for generating opportunity and income.
It was October and his flight was late and his luggage lost. Coming straight from the airport, Eldar Djangirov was unruffled when he hit the Recital Hall stage to present a master class to USC jazz students. You wouldn’t know by looking at the youthful Djangirov that he was an internationally renowned jazz pianist. That is, until his hands touched the keys. Seeming effortless, he set the keys on fire.

Dave Brubeck labeled him “a genius.” Jazz Times said, “Maybe he made a pact with Lucifer to be the greatest pianist ever.” Downbeat magazine stated, “...his command of his instrument is beyond staggering.”

Students relished the chance for questions. What separates good from great? The way a musician phrases around the beat – timing, similar to stand up comedy. How do you determine how much to improvise on a piece? Some pieces are highly arranged and the form is concrete, it depends on the arrangement – improv versus score. And the question that stumped him, what piece would you want played at your funeral or wedding or played before God?

Of the master class experience, USC jazz student Jonathan Knott said, “The most important thing I got from attending is the knowledge that even the most talented virtuoso comes from a place similar to the rest of us, musically speaking. They have the same feelings and the same urge to express them that many musicians have. Seeing Eldar play instilled me with a sense that anything is attainable through diligent practice and hard work. Watching him express himself musically was inspiring because it very clearly portrayed a case where a musician has put in the work to dig deep and find himself in the music. I was awed by his sheer technical prowess as well, but this larger sense of seeing somebody who had become such a high level musician was what really struck me.”
What does a string quartet and a brass quintet have in common? Both ensembles, artists-in-residence at USC, believe in the power of music to change lives and are passionately committed to inspiring the next generation of musicians and music lovers.

The Grammy Award-winning Parker Quartet was most recently on campus in March for their second year as USC’s Quartet-in-Residence. In addition to master classes, concerts and outreach, this year high school students got an extraordinary opportunity to work with the acclaimed quartet during USC’s Chamber Music Day and Competition. Eight high school quartets from South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia were chosen through an application process to work with the Quartet and USC faculty. A full day of mentoring and intensive coaching culminated in the young musicians’ public performance and competition. Chamber Music America awarded the quartet the prestigious Guarneri String Quartet Residency of the Residency Partnership Program, to continue its residency at USC.

Focused on discovery and growth through performance, C Street Brass expands the limits of what’s possible with five brass instruments. They’ve forged a niche by creating new and exciting concert atmospheres and highly entertaining educational programs. Carolina students learned about C Street’s imaginative approach during Spark Lab’s mini-residency in March. They will be back next spring thanks to a Visiting Scholars grant, funded by the office of the Provost.

Dean Tayloe Harding said, “The mission of the USC School of Music is to prepare students for professional careers and leadership in music, serve as a cultural and educational center of excellence for South Carolina, generate creative activities in music that have impact, and to provide meaningful music experiences for all university constituents and friends. One of the chief ways we can meet all of these objectives with a single program is to engage in meaningful residencies with world-class musicians.”
A trip that began as a traditional choral tour, turned into a service-learning trip that laid the groundwork for providing musical and advocacy resources to teachers in Soweto, South Africa. Dr. Alicia W. Walker, singers from the USC Concert Choir, University Chorus, Myers Park Baptist Church and Mississippi College traveled to Soweto to join two South African choirs for a performance of Brahms’ German Requiem in May.

South Africa is only 20 years out of Apartheid and music education still suffers from a division across racial lines. Black schools usually don’t have the resources to offer or maintain music programs, and choirs are often taught after school by enthusiastic teachers who have no formal training. But still, choral music is very much a part of the fabric of their society with a tradition of choral competitions.

Leading up to the Brahms performance, the students taught vocal pedagogy in area high schools and, along with Dr. Walker, used the solfege system as a foundation tool for music literacy. Many black choirs in South Africa get no formal instruction and learn music only by rote. In a remarkable two days of rehearsals, 45 American singers and 50 South Africans from Johannesburg community choir sang the Brahms Requiem in concert at the Miagi Center for the Arts in Soweto.

Students did some sightseeing too, but they unanimously agreed, the experience of being with musicians in South Africa and seeing the challenges they face helped them connect and understand the musical culture there on a deeper level.

In a different part of the globe, Dr. Clifford Leaman’s French connection was a boon for saxophone students at two of the world’s premier conservatories, the Paris Conservatory and the Boulogne-Billancourt Conservatory. He was invited to teach master classes by world-renowned saxophonists and pedagogues, Claude Delangle and Jean-Michel Goury.

Globe hopping for 18 days in March, Dr. Leaman next flew to Beijing where he performed on two concerts and taught master classes at Beijing Central Conservatory during the International Wind Festival organized by clarinet professor, Fan Lei. USC’s associate professor of clarinet, Joseph Eller, also gave master classes and performed recitals at the festival. Dr. Leaman presented master classes at the Xinghai Conservatory in Guangzhou before returning to the U.S. to perform Frank Ticheli’s Saxophone Concerto with the University of Illinois Wind Ensemble on the opening concert of the North American Saxophone Alliance’s Biennial Conference in Urbana, Illinois.
New Faculty and Staff

J.D. Shaw joins the USC School of Music as associate professor of horn. He was formerly with internationally acclaimed Boston Brass where he was creative director, music arranger and co-owner of the ensemble. Shaw is an active solo artist and travels extensively throughout the U.S. as well as many countries in North America, Europe and Asia. He has been a featured performer on National Public Radio’s Performance Today and the CBS Morning Show and has recorded over 15 albums encompassing diverse musical styles from the classical, jazz, and latin genres.

Daniel Sweaney joins the School of Music as associate professor of viola. He made his New York debut in Avery Fisher Hall at the 1999 Mostly Mozart Festival and has won prizes at the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition and Down Beat Magazine Chamber Music Competition. He was a two-time recipient of the Interlochen Arts Academy Fine Arts Award for Outstanding Performance in Viola. Sweaney has collaborated with Itzhak Perlman, Ani Aznavoorian, Ron Leonard, Stefan Milenkovich, Merry Peckham and Peter Sellers. While living in Austria, he performed regularly with the Camerata Salzburg under Sir Roger Norrington, Leonidas Kavakos, Walter Weller and Heinrich Schiff.

Stephen Meyer is interim assistant director of bands for the 2014-2015 academic year and will be serving as the assistant director of the USC marching band, conducting the women’s basketball band, supervising student teachers, and conducting the USC University Band.

Ann Graber has been appointed director of development for the School of Music. Graber is a 2013 graduate of the USC School of Law and received a B.M. in vocal performance from Indiana University. She pursued her Masters in opera performance at Oklahoma City University, where she studied under Larry Keller. She is a two-time district winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Alumni Spotlight

“If art is meant to educate, then ROBERT J. BRADSHAW has surely succeeded. I commend him for proving that opera is not only alive and kicking, but entirely relevant.”
– Creative Exfoliation

Bradshaw is an internationally acclaimed composer, and his music is frequently heard in concert halls around the world from Australia to Lincoln Center. His music explores and expresses emotions associated with social, historic and contemporary issues and events, including operas, ballets, symphonies and a long list of chamber and solo compositions. Bradshaw’s discography lists more than 17 commercially released CDs representing a wide variety of genres, two of which feature USC faculty that received national notoriety for their roles on them. Bradshaw devotes time to teaching and advocating for music education for all children and is resident composer with the Music of Difference Project, Northeast Massachusetts Youth Orchestras, and Tennessee Valley Music Festival where he also directs the Young Composers’ Forum.

1992 B.M.
Alumni Spotlight

J. COPeland WOODRUFF was just warming up when he held teaching appointments at The Julliard School, Oberlin College, Temple and Yale universities, the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia and Germany’s Universität Bamberg. He was recently named director of opera studies at Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin. Woodruff joins Lawrence with a wealth of accolades; he has earned four first-place National Opera Association Best Opera Production Awards since 2006 and was recognized in 2013 with the University of Memphis’ Dean’s Creative Achievement Award. Woodruff was a guest instructor with La Musica Lirica in Italy, Festival of International Opera of the Americas in Brazil, and Beijing University and has directed more than 90 opera productions, including the 2013 world premiere of “Raise the Red Lantern” at the Tianqiao Theatre in Beijing.

1986 B.M.

Faculty Distinctions

Gail Barnes, professor of music education, received The Cantey Outstanding Faculty Award for demonstrating exemplary dedication in the areas of teaching, scholarship and service. • William Bates, professor of music emeritus, received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Howard Payne University. • Fang Man, assistant professor of composition, was named as one of eight winners of the Opera America Female Composer Grant. • Dean Tayloe Harding was named vice president of Pi Kappa Lamda. • Jesse Jones, assistant professor of composition and theory, was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship for music composition. • Clifford Leaman was promoted to associate dean and director of undergraduate studies.

See more faculty news on the web at www.sc.edu/music.

Gone But Never Forgotten

We said farewell to Associate Dean Robert Pruzin, who passed away on October 29, 2013. Mr. Pruzin, an inspiration and mentor to many young musicians across the state and nation, was professor of horn at USC for nearly 36 years. He also served as director of undergraduate studies and director of advisement and student teaching.

Fred Teuber, distinguished professor emeritus, passed away September 22, 2013. He came to the department of music in 1967 and retired in 2000. He took great joy in composing and arranging for his fellow music makers, and continued to contribute to civic and church music into his eighties. A collection of his compositions is now housed in the University of South Carolina Music Library.
Maestro Young took the bull by the horns, catching every mood and impulse and driving his musicians nearly to their limits, all the while demonstrating his mastery of the complex score. This was orchestral art at its glittering, ebullient best: an event that most of the fortunate audience will never forget.”

– Charleston City Paper

JOSEPH YOUNG has been named assistant conductor of the prestigious Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO). Young received a bachelor’s degree in music education from USC in 2004 and completed his graduate studies in conducting with Gustav Meier and Markand Thakar at the Peabody Conservatory in 2009. The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, one of America’s leading orchestras, is known for its innovation and world-class musicians. Young assists with the artistic leadership of the orchestra and serves as the primary conductor for the ASO’s education and community concerts. He also serves as music director of the Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra (ASYO) in the 2014-15 season.

What if we put classical music in a new context? That was the question posed by Jennifer Parker-Harley’s flute studio students last spring. The answer? Twenty-five musicians brought music to the city 24/7 during “Sounds Around Town.” Beginning at 9 a.m. on a day in April there was a concert on the hour, every hour, all over Columbia for 24 continuous hours.
Student Spotlights
See more student and alumni news on the web at www.sc.edu/music.

Isaac Brockshus, who graduated in May with an M.M. in composition, composed the music for the School of Music’s award-winning website video. Working directly with the production company, Mad Monkey, Brockshus had to help tell a story in a minute and half. “Playing,” the first of the homepage videos, was awarded top prizes – Gold American Advertising Awards – in both the local and regional competitions. It also won the Judges’ Choice Award in the regionals. Brockshus’ talents were used again in a second video, now on the current homepage. Hopes are the newest video will win big next year too.

Tremon Kizer, D.M.A. student in wind conducting, was selected to conduct for world-renowned wind conductor Allan McMurrary at the College Band Directors Regional Conference at the University of North Florida this past spring. Kizer spends his time as a graduate teaching assistant for USC Bands, and he is also part of the wind-conducting faculty in the Department of Music at the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio. He has taught instrumental music education method courses, served as the interim director of the University of Dayton Symphonic Wind Ensemble, the premier wind band at UD, and he was the instrumental music coordinator for the Department of Music.

As a senior and Magellan scholar, Kate McKinney’s fascination with Aaron Copland led her on a journey of discovery. Not much research had been done on “The Second Hurricane,” a children’s opera and one of only two Copland operas, so she decided to make that her focus. With opera studies professor, Ellen Schlafer’s support, McKinney directed “The Second Hurricane” with a cast of 37, 27 of whom were area children. The Magellan grant covered costs for costumes, set design and accompanying musicians for the professional staging. A packed house saw the successful production at the Columbia Music Festival Association, and McKinney loved being able to offer a performing experience of a unique work for Columbia area children.

As a senior, David “Clay” Mettens won third place nationally in The American Prize in the Band/Wind Ensemble Composition Competition, student division. Of his work, “A Very Hungry Butterfly,” the judges commented, “…the piece is effective in its use of timbre and texture and takes us somewhere we may not have been before…” The award recognizes the best perform-
ing artists, ensembles and composers in the nation. His works have been played at the NewNowNorse New Music Festival at Northern Kentucky University and in an orchestra reading at Aberystwyth MusicFest in Aberystwyth, Wales. Mettens was a finalist for the 2011 ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Awards and a regional finalist for the 2012 SCI/ASCAP Student Commission Competition. At USC he was selected as recipient of the Cantey Award for Excellence and the John and Lucretia Herr Composition Award.

Rachel Parker was named a Fulbright Grant recipient and will travel abroad for the 2014-2015 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. Brianna Leaman was named alternate. They were chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential. The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government designed to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the people of other countries.” The Fulbright Program provides participants with the opportunity to study, teach or conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns in over 155 countries.

Jonathan Rouse, a 2014 Concerto-Aria Competition winner, began performing with the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra at age 17. Before coming to USC, he attended the Manhattan School of Music where he was principal bassist for the symphony and opera orchestras. Rouse continued his studies at the Juilliard School where he was principal bassist in the symphony and opera orchestras and New Juilliard Chamber Ensemble. After graduating from Juilliard he spent three years with L’Orchestre Symphonique de Quebec and then served as assistant principal bass of the S.C. Philharmonic and Symphony Orchestra Augusta in Georgia and section bassist with Atlanta Opera and Charleston and Greenville symphony orchestras.

USC Wind Ensemble was selected as a finalist for The American Prize in Band/Wind Ensemble Performance. The Prize rewards the best recorded performances by individual artists and ensembles in the U.S. at the professional, community/amateur, college, university, church and school levels.
Thank you to these donors for their recent gifts to the USC Bands program.

You can support USC Bands by pledging a gift from your estate or making a cash gift now to the Carolina Band Society. Your gift to the Carolina Band Society supports programs and scholarships for deserving students.

To make your gift, please contact School of Music Development:
Ann Graber 803-447-5089 / grabera@mailbox.sc.edu or Leslie Wrenn 803-576-5897 / lwrenn@sc.edu.
Connor Bain (music minor) was named 2014 Barry M. Goldwater Scholar. Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit, nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. The Goldwater Scholarship is awarded nationally to sophomores and juniors pursuing bachelors’ degrees in natural sciences, mathematics, or engineering and who intend to pursue a career in research and/or college-level teaching.

Caroline Beard has racked up numerous competition wins, including the 2013 Flute Society of Kentucky Collegiate Soloist Competition, 2012 and 2013 South Carolina Flute Society Master Class Competition, 2013 Carolina Flute Guild Master Class Competition and the 2013 Mid-South Flute Society College Master Class Competition. Beard participated in the Marina Puccinini International Flute Master Class at the Peabody Institute, Aria International Summer Academy at Mount Holyoke College, and The Panoramic Flutist Master Class at the University of Colorado Boulder College of Music. Beard’s recent research project on Jacques Ibert was published by the Caravel Undergraduate Research Journal. She is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, a Golden Key Scholar, and holds an executive position in the service organization Sigma Alpha Iota. Beard has been accepted to perform at the Wildacres Flute Retreat for the past four years to study with the world-renowned flute player, Göran Marcusson. This past summer, she was accepted to study flute performance at the music festival Saarburger Serenaden in Saarburg, Germany and study with her current professor Dr. Jennifer Parker-Harley.

Stephanie Beinlich was appointed adjunct voice instructor at Newberry College. She will teach applied voice, beginning diction for singers and opera workshop. D.M.A. candidate

Steven Brundage had a research poster accepted for the MTNA national conference. He has also had an article accepted for publication in the American Music Teacher.

Justin DuRant won the Rodgers North America Classical Organ Competition, a national competition.

Solomon Eichner finished Third Place in the piano portion of the MTNA Southern Division Competition. 2nd year D.M.A. piano

Viktor Lazarov and Ruby Wang won honorable mention at the Atlanta Romantic and Impressionistic Piano Competition.

Brianna Leaman was named alternate winner of the Fulbright Grant. 2013 B.M. performance

David “Clay” Mettens won 3rd place nationally in The American Prize in the Band/Wind Ensemble Composition Competition, student division, for his work “A Very Hungry Butterfly.” Mettens was selected from applications reviewed this spring from all across the United States. The American Prize is a series of new, nonprofit, competitions unique in scope and structure, designed to recognize and reward the best performing artists, ensembles and composers in the U.S. based on submitted recordings. Among judges’ comments about Mettens’ work: “...the piece is effective in its use of timbre and texture and takes us somewhere we may not have been before...” Mettens is a recipient of the McNair Scholarship, the top award given to out-of-state students. Recently, his works have been played at the NewNowNorse New Music Festival at Northern Kentucky University, the New Voices Student Composer concerts at USC, student recitals at USC, in an orchestra reading at the Aberystwyth MusicFest in Aberystwyth, Wales, and in a reading by the USC Wind Ensemble.

Meredith Miller was asked to share her information on the “10 Ways to Prepare Yourself for the First Day of School” for an article in Strings Magazine. The article was published in the January 2014 issue.

Rachel Parker is among the six Carolina students who will travel abroad for the 2014-2015 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

Eunseok Seo was one of three winners at the fifth summer International Conductors Workshop and Competition in July in Milton, Georgia. He was chosen from among 11 participants from the U.S. and eight countries.

Emily Stumpf, M.M. flute, was a Fulbright finalist for France.

Tracy Xu won first place, Atlanta Romantic and Impressionistic Piano Competition.
Zach Warren, freshman flute, won third prize at the Kentucky Flute Society in the Collegiate Artist competition and Korinne Smith, 2nd year D.M.A. flute, won second prize in the Young Artist competition.

The USC Wind Ensemble was featured at the 2014 American Bandmasters Association Conference in Montgomery, Alabama in March.

Magellan Scholars
Summer/Fall 2013

Katie Lindler / Mentor: Dr. Gail Barnes
“Novice and Veteran Orchestra Teachers Perceptions of Their Undergraduate Practicum Experiences”
Morning Poster presentations: Arts and Humanities
“First place Practicing String and Orchestra Teachers’ Perceptions of their Collegiate Practicum Experience”
Katie Lindler, Music Education – Junior / Mentor: Dr. Gail Barnes, Music
Clara Logue / Mentor: Dr. Constance Gee
“Baroque Music and Popular Music; Linking the Styles”
Kathleen McKinney / Mentor: Prof. Ellen Schlaefer
“Aaron Copland: New York and the Search for the American Sound”
Afternoon Oral/Creative presentations: Arts and Humanities
First place “The Second Hurricane: Bringing Research to Life”

Spring 2014

Elizabeth Gergel / Mentors: David Cutler, Music, and Wendy Schneider, Latin American Studies
“The Art of Argentinian Tango: A cultural exploration and gift to Columbia”

Summer/Fall 2014

Anna Carro / Mentor: Alicia Walker
“A Study of British Choral Tone and Current Practice as Demonstrated by Select Collegiate Choirs at Cambridge”

Adrian Quiroga / Mentor: Scott Price
“Pedagogical Approaches in Long-distance Piano Teaching”

Undergraduate Awards

Evan Clark - Arthur M. Fraser Award
Presented to the most outstanding graduating senior in the Bachelor of Arts in Music or the Bachelor of Music with emphasis in performance, theory or composition.

Thomas Creek won the Christopher Berg Guitar Award, given annually to honor the undergraduate guitar student best exhibiting qualities of creativity, humility, perseverance, and improvement in their study of the guitar and musical performance.

Elizabeth Gergel - Presser Scholar Award
Given by the Presser Foundation to recognize an outstanding music major at the end of his or her junior year. The Presser Scholar Award is a prestigious award that recognizes not only the excellence of the student recipient, but the music unit as well, since relatively few music schools across the nation are authorized to present this award.

Charles Harding - Robert Pruzin Music Leadership Award
The Pruzin Music Leadership Award is given to the senior in the Bachelor of Music or Bachelor of Arts programs who has demonstrated the most outstanding leadership skills in service, teaching, academic studies, and/or music performance.

Jenie Hoffman and Briana Leaman - LeDare Robinson Undergraduate Award for Academic Excellence Awarded to one undergraduate music major who demonstrates outstanding ability in the area of music history and/or theory. This award is given to the student who demonstrates great interest in the personal, political and cultural history in which music exists and also an interest in understanding the personal languages of music expression. This student will have the ability to synthesize this knowledge into intelligent, informed class work, research projects and/or performances.

Kathleen McKinney - Sigma Alpha Iota Honor Award
Given to the member who has made significant contributions to her chapter and the School of Music, and who has demonstrated outstanding musicianship, scholarship and service to the local chapter.

Sydney Medlin - Sigma Alpha Iota Scholastic Award
Given to the graduating senior SAI member with the highest grade point average.

Meredith Melven - Robert Van Doren Award
Presented to the most outstanding graduating senior in the Bachelor of Music program with emphasis in Music Education.

Milton Lopez, William Laney and Elizabeth Gergel - Cello Fund Award
Made annually by the cello professor and the Dean, based on the students’ creativity-progress, initiative, and/or for a specific project.
**Elizabeth Oliphant** - John and Lucrecia Herr Award for Composition
Awarded to an outstanding composition student for best achievement in writing original music.

**Allison Schweickert** - Cantey Award for Excellence Present to a rising senior music major who best exemplifies excellence in scholarship (as measured by grade point average), musicianship (as measured by significant contributions to USC music ensembles and performances), and service (as measured by participation in school, university or civic organizations).

**2013-2014 USC Concerto-Aria Competition Winners:**

- **Jonathan Rouse**, double bass - Bottesini, Concerto No. 2 (1st movement)
- **Evan Clark**, alto saxophone - Tomasi, Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra (1st movement)
- **Rachael Romero**, French horn - Strauss, Concerto No. 1 (1st movement)

**Music Research Day competition winners**

- **Andrew Price** - Overall Best Presentation
- **Vicente Della Tonia** - “Heitor Villa-Lobos’ Letters for Posterity: Elementary/intermediate Piano Works”
- **Katie Lindler** - Lecture-Performance: “Novice and Veteran Orchestra Teachers Perceptions of Their Undergraduate Practicum Experiences”
- **Andrew Price** - workshop: “Take That Pain Away! Ways for Preventing Injury as a Musician”

**North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference**

These students competed in the quartet competition and participated in the international North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference at the University of Illinois. **Evan Clark, Brian Bethea, Jenie Hoffman, Chris Murphy, Po-Fang Chang, Andrew Wassum, Gabe Fadale, Sheldon Johnson** and **Xin Yang**. Two USC saxophone quartets have progressed to the Semi-Final round of the competition. They competed at the University of Illinois the week of March 19-23. **The Abraxos Saxophone Quartet**: Sheldon Johnson, Andrew Wassum, Gabe Fadale and Po-Fang Chang. **The Zeigarnik Saxophone Quartet**: Evan Clark, Brian Bethea, Jenie Hoffman and Chris Murphy.

**MTNA**

**Evan Clark** won the MTNA Southern Division Young Artist Woodwind Competition in Louisville, KY and went on to compete in the National Finals in March in Chicago.

**Evan Clark** was named the winner in the 2014 South Carolina MTNA Competition “Young Artist Performance.” **Laura Zitelli** placed 2nd (alternate) in the woodwind division Young Artist Competition.

**Solomon Eichner** was first place winner at the S.C. MTNA piano competition and second place at Liszt-Garrison International Piano Competition, Baltimore, MD.

**Lonnie Russell** was alternate at SC MTNA piano competition.

**Daniel Long, David Kiser and Andrew Sohn** won honorable mention at SC MTNA piano competition.

The **MTNA Collegiate Chapter** presented at the National Convention Chicago in March 2014.

The **MTNA student chapter** was accepted to present at the MTNA National Collegiate Chapters Piano Pedagogy Symposium to be held at Brigham Young University in November.

The **Zeigarnik Quartet, Evan Clark, Brian Bethea, Jenie Hoffman, and Chris Murphy**, was named the representative in the 2014 South Carolina MTNA Competition “Chamber Music Wind.”

**ASTA National Conference**

The **USC Student ASTA Chapter** received an award for the Best Student Chapter of 2013.

**ASTA National Conference Student Presentations**

**Katie Holaway** Pre-conference Session: “Classroom Management for String Project Undergraduate Teachers”

**Katie Lindler** – Research Poster Session: “Practicing String and Orchestra Teachers’ Perception of their Collegiate Practicum Experience” (the product of a Magellan grant); “ASTA Student Chapters Serving and Building Support.”

Participants in the National String Project Consortium (NSPC) Pre-Conference: **Katie Linder, Katie Holaway, Christine Arroyo, Samuel Breitenbach, Caleb Coker, Ronnie Crisp, Lydia, Burrage-Goodwin, Milton Lopez, Olivia Morris, Zoe Lynne Rosner** and **Molly Sgrecci**.
Gail V. Barnes, professor of music education, received The Cantey Outstanding Faculty Award, presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated exemplary dedication to the School of Music in the areas of teaching, performance, scholarship or service.

William H. Bates, professor of music emeritus (organ), was the 2013 Recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, Howard Payne University.

Phillip Bush, associate professor of piano and chamber music, served in his eighth season as Music Director of the Bennington Chamber Music Conference on the campus of Bennington College, Vermont this summer. A summer camp for amateur chamber musicians ranging in age from 20 to 90, the amateurs come for intensive coaching on masterpieces of the chamber music repertoire, with a faculty comprised of top professional artist-teachers. In addition to the coaching program, the faculty performs a six-concert chamber music series across the four weeks of our complete season. An initiative of SPARK: Carolina’s Music Leadership Laboratory, The Savvy Musician in Action, in its second year, brought 60 attendees from 19 states and three countries to USC for four days of high energy, high impact experiential learning in June. Led by USC director of music entrepreneurship David Cutler, the workshop taught skills necessary to make one’s way in the world of professional music. This year’s notable faculty included Howard Herring, executive director, New World Symphony; Margaret Lioi, CEO, Chamber Music America; Ranaan Meyer, bassist, Time for Three; Kimball Gallagher, pianist and entrepreneur; and Ariel Hyatt, social media guru.

Opera America named Fang Man, research assistant professor of composition, as one of eight grant winners of the Opera America Female Composer Grant. The award will provide funds to have her new opera, “Golden Lily,” produced. The grant is meant to find women who write operas, raise their profiles within the field, and commission works from them. Composers must be able to document their ability to compose theatrical works for the classically trained voice and instrumental ensemble. Eight composers, and their proposed projects, were chosen from among 112 eligible applicants. Each will receive a $12,500 grant to help develop her opera.

Assistant professor of bassoon, Michael Harley, and Alarm Will Sound performed a new music theater written for the ensemble by composer Kate Soper, set by the famed Temple of Dendur. Harley has a leading role, both playing bassoon and singing for the final program of their residency at the Metropolitan Museum (NYC). In addition, he played two performances at the International Double Reed Society Conference in New York City in August—one with the Rushes Ensemble and one on an evening gala concert, performing the American premiere of a new concerto for bassoon by Augusta Read Thomas.

Scott Herring, professor of percussion, was awarded a Provost’s Grant for the Arts to fund a CD recording project of solo marimba and percussion ensemble selections. He and Clifford Leaman, professor of saxophone and associate dean, presented a concert at the 35th Annual Leigh Howard Stevens Summer Marimba Seminar in Asbury Park, NJ in June.

Daniel Jenkins, associate professor of music theory, received a provost grant and traveled to the Library of Congress to undertake research on Leonard Bernstein in June.

Birgitta Johnson, assistant professor of ethnomusicology, presented at the Baylor University symposium on black gospel music. “Marching to Zion: Celebrating and Preserving Black Sacred Music,” this year’s Fruit Symposium.

Jesse Jones, assistant professor of composition and theory, was awarded a 2014 Guggenheim Fellowship and will be writing a two-act opera on the late Jack London novel, Martin Eden. The work will premiere in 2016-17. The Juilliard String Quartet performed his new work, “Whereof man cannot speak...” around the globe last season.

Clifford Leaman was named the new associate dean and director of undergraduate studies. He taught master classes at the Boulogne-Billancourt Conservatory, the Paris Conservatory, Beijing Central Conservatory, and Xinghai Conservatory in March.

This summer Marina Lomazov, Ira McKissick Koger Professor of Fine Arts, and Joseph Rackers, associate
professor of piano, were guest artists at the Texas State International Piano Festival, the Burgos International Music Festival in Spain, guest artists at the International Center for the Arts in Monte Castello, Italy and Artist Faculty at Music Fest Perugia in Perugia, Italy.

**Donald Portnoy**, Ira McKissick Koger Professor of Fine Arts, conducted two concerts in Kunming, China, taught conducting and violin at Central Conservatory in Beijing, China, and taught a conducting workshop at Queens College in New York in the summer of 2014.

**Greg Stuart**, assistant professor of music literature and contemporary music, toured England in September, giving a lecture on experimental music and performing at the University of Huddersfield’s “Extended Durations” Symposium. He played in cities across England including Bristol, Brighton, Nottingham, Sheffield, and at London’s Cafe Oto, the city’s venue for experimental music and improvisation. In addition, his recent recording of Breuger’s “Sixteen Stanzas” for vibraphone was singled out for special mention and review in the New York Times.

Associate director of choral studies, **Alicia W. Walker**, singers from the USC Concert Choir, University Chorus, Myers Park Baptist Church and Mississippi College joined with two South African choirs for a performance of Brahms German Requiem in Soweto, South Africa in May. The service-learning trip laid the groundwork for providing musical and advocacy resources to teachers in Soweto. In addition, she sang in the auditioned Chamber Choir for the Triennial C. S. Lewis Foundation Conference at Oxford and Cambridge, UK in July.

**Scott Weiss**, Sarah Bolick Smith Distinguished Professor of Music, traveled to Huhhot in Inner Mongolia to conduct the Mongolian Symphony Orchestra. Presenters at the South Carolina Music Educators Association (SCMEA) Professional Development Conference in Charleston:

**Gail V. Barnes** - “Measures of Success for STRINGS!”
**Alicia W. Walker, Craig Coehlo, Amber Lindsay,** and **Christopher Leysath** - “Service Learning in St. Lucia: A Choral Music Practicum”

The American String Teachers journal (ASTA) included three articles by USC faculty and alumni:

**Gail V. Barnes**, chair, National String Project Consortium pre-conference - “Priorities in the String Classroom,” co-presenter with Katie Lindler, co-presenter with David Pope, Measures of Success for Strings.

**Craig Butterfield** - “Alternative Styles for the Double Bass”

**Rebecca Hunter** - “Body Mapping for String Players”

**Robert Jesselson** - “Cello Bootcamp 101 and 201”

Presenters at the Southern Division American Choral Directors Association Conference:

**Alicia W. Walker** - “Service Learning and Choral Music”

**Larry Wyatt** - “Treasures of Southern Division Present Choral Gems”
Andy Akiho is the recipient of the 2014-2015 Luciano Berio Rome Prize for Musical Composition. Each year through a national competition the Rome Prize is awarded to approximately 30 individuals who represent the highest standard of excellence in the arts and humanities. Rome Prize recipients are provided with a fellowship, which includes a stipend and live/working space, and are invited to live in Rome for six months to two years to immerse themselves in the Academy community. They enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to expand their own professional, artistic, or scholarly pursuits, by drawing on their colleagues’ knowledge and experience, as well as the inestimable resources that Italy, Europe, and the Academy have to offer.

The Cincinnati School of Music, founded by Joe Backer and his wife, was recently named one of the top seven schools for private music instruction in the United States for 2013.

Maria Beery advanced to the National Semifinals of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Auditions. Beery advanced through three rounds of auditions—state and regional live auditions and a national video audition. She is one of only 12 semi-finalists in her category. This is the highest level of achievement in NATS student auditions.

Brian Bemman has been accepted to the Ph.D. program in Computer Science and Engineering in the media technology section of the Department of Architecture, Design and Media Technology at Aalborg University in Denmark. The track he will be pursuing will focus on machine modelling of musical learning and creativity as part of an EU collaborative project called «Learning to Create.»

Jonathan Gangi has accepted the position of assistant professor of arts entrepreneurship in the College of Arts & Architecture at The Pennsylvania State University. He will teach arts entrepreneurship courses, as well as be responsible for building an arts entrepreneurship program for the entire college. He will also be affiliated with the School of Music there where he will teach guitar.

Anna Hamilton’s work in teaching piano to inmates at a women’s correctional facility was featured in the July/August issue of Clavier Companion.

Jenifer Elaine Kechulius (Hoffman) was appointed as coordinator/program director of the Champaign School of Music in Champaign, IL.

Adam Kehl has been appointed director of bands at Elon University, Elon, N.C.

Sarah R. Kervin has accepted a position teaching voice at Berklee College of Music.

Mikas Kuprenas has been accepted into the Charlotte Civic Orchestra.

Brian Locke recently completed the M.M. Collaborative Piano program at the University of Michigan under renowned pianist and coach, Martin Katz. He recently performed in New York City’s Merkin Hall and in Ann Arbor’s Hill Auditorium as well as a multi-province tour of Canada. He now resides in Chicago where he works as a pianist and répétiteur.

Alex McAllister is assistant professor and humanities librarian at Appalachian State University.

Xavier Moses was named the Allendale County School District Teacher of the Year.


Kate Rawls has accepted the position of assistant professor of voice, tenure track.

Joshua Wentz has accepted a position as assistant professor of music at Western Wyoming.

Eliezer Yanson was chosen to present a session at the World Symposium on Choral Music in Korea, summer, 2014.
2000–2009

**Cameron Mitchell Bell** will be playing the role of Bert Healy in the Broadway National Tour of “Annie.” The show tours from September 2014 through July 2015. Bell will also be a member of the ensemble. 2008 B.M. vocal performance

**Xavier Breaker** has been touring and performing with jazz artists around Chicago. Xavier, founder of both the Xavier Breaker Trio and the Xavier Breaker Coalition, is a Chicago-based composer, musician and arranger, who has been praised for his versatility and sensitivity to diverse musical genre. 2009 B.M. performance

**Nové Deypalan** received a conducting award at the St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic International Masterclass in February 2014, where he was awarded the highest distinction. He has accepted an offer from the Georgia Music Educators Association as conductor of All State Orchestra on February 2015 in Athens, Georgia. 2012 D.M.A. orchestral conducting

**Toby Scott Guinn** has been appointed Associate Director of Artistic Administration for Florida Grand Opera in Miami. 2000 B.M.

Hailed by the Washington Post for her “bright, luminous mezzo-soprano of vast power and potential,” **Cynthia Hanna** makes her Lyric Opera of Chicago debut as the Third Wood Nymph in Rusalka and returns to the American Symphony Orchestra as Wiegelis in Feuersnot and the role of Suzuki in Madama Butterfly with Opera Grand Rapids and Meg Page in Falstaff with Emerald City Opera in the 2013-14 season. Last season, she sang her first performances of Verdi’s Requiem with the Charleston Symphony and Dalila in Samson et Dalila as a guest artist at Hamilton College. She recently made her international operatic debut as Suzuki in Madama Butterfly at the Savonlinna Festival and subsequently returned to the company for roles in two world premieres: Joan of Arc in Free Will, composed by an international community online, and the Guard in Hakola’s La Fenice. She returned to Washington National Opera as the Page in Salome. 2006 M.M. opera

**Randy Immler** has been elected to the Board of Trustees at Winthrop University by the General Assembly. 2006 D.M.A. choral conducting

**Brad Meyer** was appointed to associate professor of percussion at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacodoches, Texas. 2009 M.M.

**Quintus F. Wrighten, Jr.** was named a Teacher of the Year Finalist at Cane Bay Middle School in Summerville, S.C. Wrighten established the growing Cane Bay Middle School band program in August 2012. He also serves as the school’s related arts department chair. Prior to his arrival at Cane Bay Middle School, Dr. Wrighten served as a faculty member of the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music at the University of Memphis. 2005 B.M.

**Joseph Young** was named assistant conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. He will also be the ASO youth orchestra music director. 2004 B. M. music education

1990–1999

**Sandy Barnes Goldie** has accepted a full-time, tenure track position at Virginia Commonwealth University. 1994 B.M. music education

**Daryl Byrd** is Teacher of the Year at Crayton Middle School, Columbia, S.C. 1994 B.M. music education

**River Bluff High School band director Ken Turner** was included in School Band and Orchestra magazine’s 16th annual “50 Directors Who Make a Difference” report. 1992 B.M. music education

1980–1989

**Scott Rush**, 1986 B.M., **Emily Wilkinson**, B.M. music education, and Jeff Scott published the book, “Habits of a Successful Middle School Band Director.”

**J. Copeland Woodruff** was named director of opera studies at Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin. 1986 B.M., 1989 M.M.

**ASTA Alumni Presentations**

**Jacob Dakon** – “Memorization for the Beginning String Student” 2000 B.M.

**David Pope** – “Teaching Outside the Box: Increasing Student Efficiency During Rehearsals; The Effect of Experience, Performance Level and Presentation Medium on String Musicians’ Evaluations of String Orchestra Performances”

**Christopher Selby** – chair, pre-conference session on ASTA string curriculum, performance of the Charleston School of the Arts at the National

Southern Division American Choral Directors Association
2014 Convention of the Southern Division American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) in Jacksonville, the School of Music was well represented by its graduates who comprised over 40% of the choirs that performed at the March conference. Choirs were chosen by blind, competitive auditions:

Matthew Caine, 2010 D.M.A. “Where 10 or 12 are Gathered”

Warren Cook, 1993 D.M.A.; River Tree Singers

Timothy Powell, 2004 D.M.A. 2004; The Davidson Chorale

Hilary Ridgley, 2004 M.M.E.; Rochelle Women’s Chorus

Martha Shaw, 1999 D.M.A. 1999; Spivey Hall Children’s Choir


Damion Womack, D.M.A. candidate; The Montgomery Academy Upper School Chorus

Toh Ban Sheng served as an adjudicator at the 2014 Singapore International Choral Festival in August. M.M. choral conducting
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