

# NOTES FROM MASON

MUSIC NEWS SUMMER 2009

**Carmina Burana  
Scholarship Benefit  
Concert is a Success!**



**Connecting: Embracing  
Technology of the 21st Century**

**Fredonia Jazz Ensemble  
Releases new CD**

## Dear Alumni & Friends,

Six years ago, when new at Fredonia, I guided the faculty through a planning process to define the School of Music as we wanted it to be and to chart the short-term course that would make that happen. We took note of the aspects of the program that were already strong and decided to concentrate some energy to strengthen other areas. We knew we couldn't do it all, and we had to prioritize. At the time, we targeted the string program as our area of greatest growth potential.

As a result, we added faculty for the string studios. Since 2004, national searches brought violinist Janet Sung, violinist Maureen Yuen, violist David Rose and cellist Natasha Farny as new members to join the efforts of bassist Harry Jacobson and orchestral conductor David Rudge. This group of dynamic individuals has quickly built a string program of distinction and quality, and innovation and high standards are evident in every performance. In April 2009, the College Symphony Orchestra accompanied the Masterworks Chorus in Orff's *Carmina Burana*. It was a "first" in several ways. Please read about this electrifying concert in this issue of *Notes from Mason*.

The orchestral program is now a point of pride for the school. As we entered a new strategic planning cycle this past year, we observed that, rather than building new areas of instruction, we had to invest in strengths that already existed. We would continue to give attention to keyboard studies, and we would earnestly seek faculty to supplement our excellent, existing team in music education. We would make adjustments in grad programs, and we would purposefully build our scholarship endowments so that we assure sustainability. Finally, we would strive to be global in our thinking, helping our students understand the musical field well beyond our local borders.

Many members of our faculty are now active on an international level, and they in turn wish to bring a cosmopolitan perspective to the campus and to our students. Each year, a fellowship funded by Dr. Rick Lundquist takes a student to an undeveloped or developing country for study and a cultural experience. Lately, faculty and students have traveled to Great Britain, Italy, Japan, China, Germany, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, Spain, Ghana and Ecuador. International studies have developed into a new curricular growth area, and we hope to expand the opportunities for short and long term exchanges throughout the world. We know that Fredonia is a great place to study and concentrate on musical studies, but we also feel the responsibility to provide our students with the broad view of music, the arts, and our society. Not only is it wonderful and interesting, but their careers are certain to be within communities of ever increasing pluralism.

We hope these endeavors, as well as the news within this issue, excites you as much as it does us. Please come visit the campus, and please don't hesitate to give me a call when you do. And thanks so much for your support year after year. We couldn't do any of this without you.

Karl Boelter, Director




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*NOTES FROM MASON* is published by the School of Music once a year. We welcome your suggestions and submissions of articles, Alumni News updates, and photos. Please e-mail information to Lori Deemer, [lori.deemer@fredonia.edu](mailto:lori.deemer@fredonia.edu), or send by mail to: Notes from Mason, School of Music-Mason Hall, SUNY Fredonia, Fredonia NY 14063.





## *Carmina Burana* Scholarship Benefit Concert is a success!

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In Spring 2009, the Masterworks Chorus presented Carl Orff's immense *Carmina Burana* with the College Symphony Orchestra under the direction of David Rudge. The annual masterworks production is an honored tradition at SUNY Fredonia and *Carmina Burana* has been the featured work at least three times before, but the pride was palpable that this was the first time the Masterworks Chorus performed with an all-student orchestra, and there was even more excitement that the quality of the performance was at such a high level. With a string program that has grown and strengthened, the orchestra decided it was ready to take on the challenge previously reserved for professional players such as the Western New York Chamber Orchestra, the Fredonia Chamber Players, or the Buffalo Philharmonic. The students in both the orchestra and chorus were well prepared and energized by the opportunity. The event included 30 members of Chautauqua Children's Chorale, guest artist Stephen Swanson, baritone, and faculty soloists Gwendolyn Coleman Detwiler, soprano, and Gerald Gray, tenor. The thrilling event was heard by an audience of over 700.

The concert was also the first time that the masterworks event was presented as a scholarship benefit. All revenue in excess of \$10 per ticket was set aside for scholarships and added to the School of Music's scholarship endowment. "The need to build funds for scholarships is urgent, and it's great to see the need addressed in a really public, significant way, and with such a massive team effort," said David Rudge. "It is an excellent beginning for the Scholarship Concert Series." Over \$7000 was raised from the event. The Masterworks Chorus and College Symphony will be presenting its next Scholarship Benefit Concert on April 18, 2010, when they perform Beethoven's 9th Symphony.

## Highlights from the 2008-2009 concert season

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The Rosch Musical Arts Series continues to present some of the finest guest artist performances on the campus. Many of these musicians also work with students, engage in community outreach, and collaborate with faculty. The performances occurred in either Rosch Recital Hall or King Concert Hall.

On the evening of October 19th, professor Bruce Johnstone directed "Bird with Strings," a tribute concert to Charlie Parker's landmark recording from 1950. With the original orchestral parts in hand, Johnstone organized a student string orchestra, called the Fredonia Chamber Jazz Ensemble for this concert, and joined forces with Canadian saxophonist Darcy Hepner and pianist and alumnus Tony Caramia. The concert, performed with insight and care to the original sound and style, was a rare opportunity to hear this music, which was some of Parker's favorite from his career.

For the fourth year in a row, the Fredonia College Choir offered a perfect way to begin the holiday season. Under the direction of professor Gerald Gray, the choir

presented Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* on December 10th with guest soloists Maria Jette, soprano; Pamela Dellal, mezzo-soprano; Jason McStoots, tenor; and Aaron Engebret, baritone. A professional chamber orchestra accompanied. Each year, the audience for this concert event grows, indicating that the annual holiday choral concert by the College Choir has become a new tradition.

The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra returned to King Concert Hall on April 3. Directed by resident conductor Robert Franz, the program included Antonin Dvorak's *Symphony No. 6*, Carl Nielsen's *Helios Overture*, and Lars-Erik Larsson's *Concerto for Saxophone*. Professor Wildy Zumwalt was the soloist on the Larsson, which he performed with beauty and virtuosity.

On April 28, as part of our festival "Art of the Guitar," we heard the great French guitarist Roland Dyens. Well-known as a performer, arranger, composer and improviser, Dyens captivated with the audience with a wide variety of works from the repertoire, some of which were his own.

## Katherine Peterson fulfills dream of experiencing Africa as Lundquist Fellow

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For as long as she can remember, Katherine Petersen has been intrigued by Africa, but her first exposure to Ghanaian culture at SUNY Fredonia occurred in her freshman year as a member of the African Drumming Ensemble. Bernard Woma, the ensemble's director, told the students about the Dagara Music Center in Ghana, a school for traditional African music and culture that he had founded. Petersen promised herself back then that she would visit the center before graduation. As the recipient of the 2008 Lundquist Fellowship, her wish was fulfilled.

Katherine lived with three families and encountered seven tribes during her stay. English is widely spoken, though the country is filled with numerous dialects. Living accommodations varied, from modern with flushing toilets and running water, to primitive with mud-and-stick dwellings and no electricity.

She was impressed by the way Ghanaians organize their lives. "Their way of life is much more

efficient, and I wanted to learn that and bring that sort of natural lifestyle back to America," Katherine said. "They learn to live with what they have. They have more efficient ways to farm and do other things. I was most touched by the positivity of the people there, and how they were always interested in helping me. And I feel like Americans could use a lot more of that."

"I've definitely changed my priority in life," said Katherine in response to the experience. "I feel I have more of an obligation to humanity, to helping out people who have nothing, and just working with children who need role models." The vocal performance major has therefore broadened her post-graduation plans. Among the possibilities are working in orphanages in Ghana, serving in inner-city music programs in the United States, or pursuing training in music therapy.

The Lundquist Fellowship was established in the 1990s by SUNY Fredonia professor emeritus Richard Lundquist. The mission is to give undergraduate students



Katherine Peterson, right, joins Professor Emeritus Richard Lundquist at the 2008 Scholars Breakfast.

first-hand experiences in a second or third world country, and to then share these experiences with others through presentations to various student groups and civic organizations.

# Double Reed Day fosters young musicians

by Zachary Arenz

On October 18, 2008, the double reed faculty and students of SUNY Fredonia, with guest artist Christopher Weait, bassoon, hosted the annual Double Reed Day. Middle and high school double reed players from across New York State were invited to spend an exciting day working with the faculty and students in a supportive and encouraging atmosphere.

The day began in the Fredonia School of Music's Juliet J. Rosch Recital Hall with a performance of works by Gabrieli, Marcello, Bozza, and Mr. Weait's own composition *Lonely Island*. The opening recital was a musical "welcome" to the participants and their parents and showcased the oboe and bassoon studios at Fredonia. Immediately following the recital, Mr. Weait gave an outstanding master class focusing on the techniques of tonguing, tuning, slurring, dynamics for both oboists and bassoonists, with everyone actively participating on their instruments.

Following the group master class, the oboes and bassoons separated and attended focused master classes by professors Laura Koepke and Sarah Hamilton. The day included hands-on reed-making classes, chamber music reading sessions, and concluded with a fun and enthusiastic final concert. In this event, the chamber ensembles performed their pieces, and then everyone participated in a mass reading of two



Professor Laura Koepke, guest artist Christopher Weait, and Dr. Sarah Hamilton with the 2008 Double Reed Day group.

pieces: *Adoramus te* by Palestrina and *Bourree* by Handel. Both works were arranged for double reed ensemble by Mark Walker and edited by Christopher Weait. The large ensemble of double reeds, including English horn and contrabassoon, was under the direction of Dr. David Rudge, head of Fredonia's orchestral program. The sound was glorious and unique, and there were beaming smiles coming from the audience, which was made up of proud parents and teachers.

It was amazing and rewarding to have all of these musicians come together for a day of double reed music-making!

(Zachary Arenz, International Double Reed Society member and bassoonist, is a junior music education major at SUNY Fredonia)



Professor Janet Sung works with String Experience students in Rosch Recital Hall.

## The annual String Experience is a growing success

The String Experience is a seminar for high school violinists, violists, cellists and bassists that enables students to meet and work with the Fredonia string faculty. Each year, the event attracts more students, teachers and parents, and the appeal has now broadened to include the entire state as well as neighboring regions in Pennsylvania and Ontario. In 2008, the event was extended to two days and included overnight stays with upper-class string students in Fredonia's dorms.

The young musicians worked individually and in groups with faculty members Janet Sung, violin; Maureen

Yuen, violin; David Rose, viola; Natasha Farny, cello; and Harry Jacobson, bass. Special guest artists also worked with the students: Glenn Dicterow, violin (concertmaster, New York Philharmonic), and Steven Doane, cello (Los Angeles Piano Quartet, Eastman). The weekend was full of excited lessons, technique demonstrations and chamber music rehearsals and performances. The event concluded on Sunday evening with a concert by the Western New York Chamber Orchestra in King Concert Hall.

PIANO EXPERIENCE (NEW THIS YEAR!)

DOUBLE REED DAY

STRING EXPERIENCE

SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

NOVEMBER 1, 2009

NOVEMBER 1, 2009

More information and registration online @ [www.fredonia.edu/music](http://www.fredonia.edu/music)



# Connecting: Embracing technology of the 21st century

The School of Music has made significant advancements using the communication potential of the Internet. When the university decided to redesign its website, the School of Music seized the opportunity to launch a new site of its own that had the ability of creating a stronger online presence. The effort has sparked other initiatives, such as the creation of a profile on Facebook, the use of YouTube for promotional videos, and the development of a cooperative agreement with Apple's iTunes U. Also, Fredonia has created a portal for alumni to connect with past classmates and faculty members.

The School of Music website — [www.fredonia.edu/music](http://www.fredonia.edu/music) — was launched in September. Consistent with the university's overall design priorities, it is a straight-forward format that makes it easy for the users to find what they are looking for. We have increased the amount of information that can be found about the faculty, the programs and the range of events that occur on and around campus. We are currently working to have all audition registrations online so that the admissions process can be more logical and efficient.

Facebook is a free web-access social utility that helps people communicate efficiently with others. The School of Music has created a Facebook "fan page" that is accessible to all individuals, even those that are not members of the social networking site. The fan page has already proven to be successful, updating members on upcoming musical events, important messages, information on ticket discounts, and providing photos and details for performances and master classes.

YouTube is a website where users can upload, view and share video clips. The School of Music has recently utilized this site to publicize April's Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra with saxophonist Wildy Zumwalt and the Masterworks performance of *Carmina Burana*. Both videos were also uploaded to the Facebook fan page.

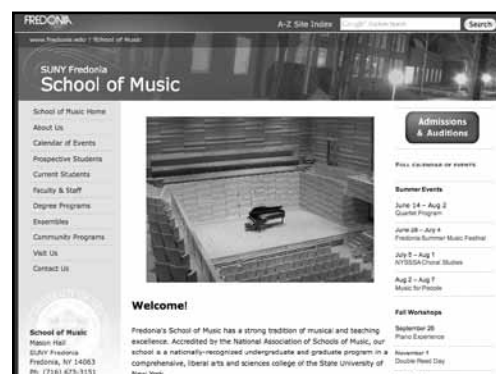
Currently, the School of Music is exploring what iTunes U has to offer and plans to begin posting brief concert samples and interviews as a pilot program beginning Fall Semester, 2009. An educational component of the iTunes Store, iTunes U features free lectures, language lessons, audio books, music files, and more, and all podcasts can be enjoyed on an iPod, iPhone, Mac or PC. If the pilot program is successful, interested individuals will be able to subscribe to the School of Music channel and receive regular audio and video content.

The Fredonia Alumni portal, titled "FredConnect," is an online social network created exclusively for Fredonia State alumni and faculty members. See the sidebar for the new web address.

We are excited about our new adventures into 21st century technology. There is sure to be much more progress in this area, benefiting all students, staff, alumni, and community members who are looking for easily-accessible information about the School of Music.



[www.youtube.com/SUNYFredoniaMusic](http://www.youtube.com/SUNYFredoniaMusic)



[www.fredonia.edu/music](http://www.fredonia.edu/music)

*Your alma mater, classmates, and teachers want to keep you in the picture. Register on this site to gain full advantage of its features. **FredConnect:** Post messages on the forum, join and form groups, update your profile, find and link to friends, send and receive private messages.*

<http://alumni.fredonia.edu/>

In March, the **Fredonia Percussion Ensemble**, conducted by Dr. Kay Stonefelt, performed at Alfred University as part of the Alfred subscription concert series. This was an exciting event enabling the group to show off the range of its skills. Segments in Mexican marimba, ragtime and West African drumming were led by Tiffany Nicely.

The Percussion area also sponsored clinics by West Point Band percussionist Craig Bitterman and Buffalo Philharmonic principal percussionist Mark Hodges. Their expertise and messages raised awareness about personal goals in music and the pursuit of excellence.



Also of note to the many musicians who moved instruments between halls over the years, the percussion cage has been expanded backstage of King Concert Hall.

In February the horn section from the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra gave a master class to the 18-member **Horn Studio**. In March, Gail Williams of the Chicago Symphony visited to play Mozart's 3rd Horn Concerto with the Wind Ensemble and gave a tremendous master class at which three horn students had a chance to perform.



Jacek Muzyk, principal horn with the BPO, works with students in Rosch Recital Hall.

The **Composition Studio** participated in a master class with guest composer Jonathan Leshnoff. Several students attended the premiere performance of Leshnoff's violin concerto by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra (BPO) and got to meet the soloist, Charles Weatherbee, and BPO's conductor JoAnn Falletta after the concert.



Livia Sohn and Janet Sung present new works by composition students in concert.

Professor Janet Sung and Stanford University violinist Livia Sohn performed a concert of student compositions in Rosch Recital Hall. The concert was part of an exchange program, and four works by Fredonia students were selected to be performed at Stanford University.

The Art of the Guitar Festival enabled students to write for guitar and have them performed. Three of the works were selected for a composition master class with guest artist Roland Dyens.

# Fredonia professors go “retro”

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Nearly a decade into the 21st century, the modern music of the 20th century is taking its place in history. Many of the masterworks of 50 or so years ago are read about in textbooks but are becoming heard less and less on stage. To counteract this trend, members of the faculty have joined forces in what is increasingly known as the “Retro Ensemble,” and after its third year the ensemble is proving that this music is fresh and relevant, and audiences are excited about hearing it come alive.

The group is organized by piano professor Mary Marden Cobb. When planning for last Fall Semester’s concert, the idea came forward to program Arnold Schoenberg’s *Pierrot Lunaire*. Cobb said, “When I asked faculty if they were interested in doing the piece, I got a resounding and enthusiastic ‘yes!’ from everyone.”

*Pierrot Lunaire* is Schoenberg’s melodramatic composition dating from 1912. The central character Pierrot is a figure from *commedia dell-arte*, and the text for the musical work is drawn from the 1884 poetry by Albert Giraud. In setting the story, Schoenberg chose twenty-one of Giraud’s poems in German translation by Otto Erich Hartleben. A distinctive aspect of the music is the vocal style called Sprechstimme, loosely

meaning half-spoken, half-sung. The vocalist assumes the role of Pierrot. In Part I of the work, Pierrot is intoxicated by the moon; in Part II, he is in a violent nightmare, and in Part III he journeys home. Each movement of the work is set against a different combination of a small number of instruments.

For this work, the ensemble’s members were soprano Shinobu Takagi as Pierrot, Mary Marden Cobb (piano), Susan Royal (flute), James East (clarinet/bass clarinet), Maureen Yuen (violin), David Rose (viola) and University at Buffalo guest Jonathan Golove (cello). Wildy Zumwalt conducted.

*Pierrot Lunaire* is not performed as often as it should be, “in part because of the difficulty of the piece,” said Cobb. “It hadn’t been performed at Fredonia since the early 1970s, so that made it doubly important for our students to hear it. On top of that, one of our goals is to reach out to new and larger audiences, and this is exactly the kind of major work that can do that.”

The concert was enhanced by a presentation by Gordon Root and program notes by Dr. Paul Murphy. The Fredonia concert was held on October 4, and the performance was repeated at the University at Buffalo on October 12.

## Drummer Shawn Pelton visits Fredonia

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In February, the School of Music Percussion Guild hosted guest artist Shawn Pelton, the drummer of Saturday Night Live (SNL). Pelton gave an outstanding presentation and performance to a packed Rosch Recital Hall. By covering extensive percussion techniques and providing insight into some of the creative tricks used in creating SNL sequences, Pelton delivered a mix of master class, recital, and pure entertainment.

“Shawn’s creativity has placed him where he is today with SNL and as one of the most in-demand session drummers of his time,” said professor Kay Stonefelt, the faculty advisor of the Percussion Guild. “It is his drive and will to succeed, in combination with the creative flow, that makes him so unique.”





# Fredonia Jazz Ensemble releases new CD



The Fredonia Jazz Ensemble is one of the campus's oldest and most honored student organizations, and to make sure that everyone knows they are "Still Kickin'," they used that title for their

first full-fledged studio recording in 16 years. Lead trumpeter and co-director Matt Koerner, a senior from Saginaw, Michigan, is fully aware of the 75-year history of the group. "We contacted alumni and asked questions about how to do this, what was it like for them and was it a good idea," said Koerner. "Before we knew it, we had a whole network of people volunteering their time and talents." Koerner adds that the CD "conveys that big band music is still exciting, still spicy, still around and can be entertaining."

The recording occurred in February, 2009 at Mark Custom Recording in Clarence, New York. FJE members only had to glance into the recording booth to see Fred Betschen, a 1984 graduate who studied Sound Recording Engineering, at the controls. Another 1984 Fredonia grad, Greg Meadows, a graphic designer who has been creating album cover art since the 1980s, contributed the artwork for the disc.

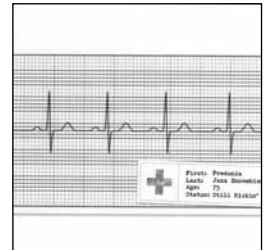
The 19 members of the ensemble who formed the ensemble for the recording were joined by five additional musicians for one of the selections. All were proud to be continuing FJE's legacy by creating this recording, the ensemble's ninth release in its

history. "We are following in the footsteps of past ensembles, which were what particularly made the Fredonia School of Music so well known and put the university into the spotlight by having professional level student-run ensembles on campus," said co-director Michael Casey, a senior from Liverpool, New York.

Most FJE members are music majors. Music Education is the dominant major, while others are pursuing degrees in Music Business, Music Performance or Sound Recording Technology. All are serious musicians who are "taking aspects learned from the curricular bands and making something of their own with it, which is exactly the way it should be," added Professor Bruce Johnstone, FJE advisor and Director of Curricular Jazz Studies.

In a review of the disc, Professor Thomas Bingham heralded "Still Kickin'" as a "rousing set of eight top-flight big band performances. It boasts arrangements which unleash fine solos by FJE regulars and occasionally expands to include vocals, a string section on one selection and guest performances by some of Western New York's finest jazz veterans."

Distribution of the CD is being handled by the FJE, and it will be available for purchase at future FJE concerts. It is also available at the college bookstore and various online retailers.



## Guest artists share insights with students



The School of Music is pleased to host numerous guest artists in master classes each year. Last year we were proud to feature the Bowed Piano Ensemble with Stephen Scott, composer; David Breitman, piano; Amy Briggs, piano; the Buffalo Philharmonic horn section; Tom Chess, percussion; Enrica Ciccarelli, piano; Glenn Dicterow, violin; Vince DiMartino, trumpet; Stephen Doane, cello; Stefania Donzelli, voice; Roland Dyens, classical guitar/composition; Maria Ferrante, soprano; Jared Hauser, oboe; Mark Hodges, percussion; Diane Ketchie, voice; Ocotillo Winds; Ravi Padmanabha, tabla; Shawn Pelton, percussion; Aurélien Pétillot, viola; David Rakowski, composition; Ray Saar, voice; Bill Sallak, percussion; Charlie Schlueter, trumpet; Livia Sohn, composition/violin; Kathy Supove, piano; Harvey Thurmer, violin; Christopher Weait, oboe/bassoon; Amy Williams, piano; Gail Williams, horn; Carol Wincenc, flute; Randal Woolf, composer.

## FACULTY NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS



**Christian Bernhard** presented research papers and educational clinics at the New York State School Music Association Winter Conference in Rochester, NY; American String Teachers Association National Conference in Atlanta, GA; and “Music, Health, and Happiness” International Conference in Manchester, England. He also published articles on musicians’ health and the use of improvisation in traditional instrumental rehearsals, and was one of three researchers to be appointed on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Music Teacher Education*.



**Rob Deemer** had works premiered nationally and on campus, including *Three Wedding Songs* with mezzo-soprano Lynne McMurtry and violist David Rose, *2000 Pounds* with tenor Joe Dan Harper and pianist I-Fei Chen Markham, and a successful performance of a SUNY Fredonia commissioned work, *America Windows*, by the Chamber Orchestra, Women’s Choir, and several faculty members. *Hearing the Movies: Music and Sound in Film History*, a textbook he co-authored with David Neumeyer and James Buhler, was published by Oxford University Press.



**Mario Falcao** was the guest artist at the 10th World Harp Congress held in Amsterdam in July 2008, he performed the Harp Concerto by the Portuguese composer Jorge Peixinho, appointed Visiting Professor at the Escola Superior de Musica de Lisboa and gave a master class at the Porto Conservatory in January. This spring and summer he gave seminars in Lisbon in January and May and was an invited member of the Jury on the 2nd International Harp Competition in May.



**Marc Guy** performed at the 14th International World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles conference with Keith Brion and the New Peerless Sousa Band in July at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. In December 2009 he will again join them to perform at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago.



**David Rudge** taught at the Conductor’s Institute at Bard College Conservatory of Music this summer. The prestigious Conductor’s Institute, in its third decade and eighth year at Bard College, promotes technical clarity and precision in baton movement in a positive working atmosphere that enables conductors at every level to fulfill their musical capabilities. It strives to disarm the competitive learning process so that conductors assist and support one another and also encourages American conductors to be advocates of American composers.



**Andrew Seigel** presented a lecture-recital entitled “Clarinets, Crickets and Computers, Oh My!” at the College Music Society’s Northeast Regional Conference in Quincy, MA. The recital featured two works for clarinet and pre-recorded sounds, Philip Bimstein’s “Half-Moon at Checkerboard Mesa,” and Nikola Resanovic’s “alt.music.ballistix,” with discussion about how these two works use technology to appeal to new audiences by creating new sound environments on the stage.



**Raymond Stewart**, a member of The Meridian Arts Ensemble, has collaborated on an album recording with Natalie Merchant, making this her first new album since 2001. Stewart also performed at Paine Hall at Harvard University under the direction of Conductor Jeffrey Milarsky this year. The concert was the first of two, collectively called “The New Soloist.” It displayed Stewart’s tuba performance in Galina Ustolskaya’s 1971 “Composition No. 1: dona nobis pacem.” Stewart worked with a deliberately incompatible trio of O’Connor on piccolo, Gosling on piano, and himself on tuba.



**Kay Stonefelt & Tiffany Nicely** performed a vibraphone duet, “*Time’s Racing (but measured by what we do)*” by Eric Richards, at the International Percussive Arts Society Conference (PASIC) in Austin, TX, November 5, 2008. Composer Eric Richards and Kay Stonefelt began collaborating for “Time’s Racing” by exploring the new sounds of a metal gyil from Ghana, West Africa.



The Fredonia Wind Quintet (**Susan Royal**, flute; **Sarah Hamilton**, oboe; **Andrew Seigel**, clarinet; **Laura Koepke**, bassoon; **Marc Guy**, horn) presented a seminar at the 2008 NYSSMA Winter Conference entitled “Creating Connections.” The presentation explained the benefits of taking student chamber music programs into other academic classrooms to enhance the learning environments. The quintet also performed and gave a series of instrument-specific classes at the 2009 Erie County Music Educator’s Association In-service Day.

## Phyllis East retires

After 36 years of service to the School of Music, Professor Phyllis East retired in May, 2009. She has taught hundreds of students, played countless recitals, and been a valuable mentor to students and faculty alike.

Phyllis’ pathway to the faculty was gradual. She moved to Fredonia when her husband, clarinetist Jay East, joined the university’s faculty. Adjusting to life in a smaller town, she focused on earning her master’s degree in piano performance at Fredonia, and quickly became involved playing on as many recitals as she could. For the next four years, she worked part-time for the university and gave private piano lessons. When a regular position opened on the faculty, she applied for it and won the opportunity to become full time and eventually tenured. Her career has been a model of excellence, well balanced in musicianship, performance, teaching and service to the university and the music profession.

Phyllis worked to build a strong program that would serve the full breadth of the School of Music. She brought in friends and colleagues as guest artists, offering to host them

in her home if they would present for Fredonia students. Among the notable guests: Murray Perahia, Vladimir Feltsman, Nelita True, Barry Snyder, Natalia Antonova, Peter Serkin and Richard Goode. She made connections to help build funds for scholarships. One of them is a gift from the foundation of Claudette Sorel, which also provided the funds for a new concert grand for Rosch Recital Hall. This was a wonderful gift that seemed perfectly “wrapped.” Phyllis had studied with Claudette Sorel when she was working on her master’s, and when Ms. Sorel left the school, Phyllis took over her teaching load. Now Sorel’s legacy is furthering the legacy that now belongs to both of them.

Phyllis East’s colleague Mary Marden Cobb wrote: “Phyllis kept the piano area functioning for a great many years. As the head of the area, she had a lot of those unstated responsibilities on her plate, which she just handled without fanfare. Having taken over as accompanying coordinator last year, I found out how much work was involved, and that was just one of the tasks she had been doing for so long. Even now, though, I don’t think I have



a good grasp of how much energy she poured into this job, including years of collaborative work, mountains of teaching, and all the auditions, paperwork, etc. I think her dedication exemplifies the best of Fredonia’s faculty.”

When asked what accomplishments she was most proud of, Phyllis recalled the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching she received in 1989. This was a great joy, beyond the award’s prestige; she was most honored in the nomination by colleagues and students.



## Jonathan Mann, Pianist, joins the Fredonia faculty



The School of Music welcomes Dr. Jonathan Edward Mann to the piano faculty, replacing Phyllis East who retired in May after 36 years of service.

Dr. Mann earned his doctorate in piano performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where he served as a faculty member of the College-Conservatory's Preparatory Department as well as a teaching assistant to

Professor James Tocco. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in piano performance under Dr. Karen Shaw from Indiana University where he was associate instructor and faculty member of the Young Pianist's Program.

Dr. Mann's penetrating interpretations are "nimble" and "supple," with "rich coloristic command of the piano." He has performed as soloist with the

Brevard Orchestra, Indiana University Symphony, North Manchester Symphony, and Fort Wayne Philharmonic, where his performance of Liszt's E-flat concerto was hailed as "dashing, elegant, and mercurial." Recent recitals have occurred in Vancouver, Seattle, Bellingham, Portland, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boise, Spokane, Louisville, Jacksonville and Greensboro. He is also an experienced collaborator, both as an accompanist and as an opera coach-accompanist.

Dr. Karl Boelter, Director of the School of Music, said, "We are excited to have such a dynamic talent join the piano faculty. Not only is Dr. Mann a highly accomplished musician, but he is eager to recruit, to build, to teach, to play, and to collaborate. This is the kind of person we hoped we'd be able to attract."

In 2010, Dr. Mann will record a solo disc of the music of Brazilian composer Radamés Ganttali for Centaur Records.

## Announcing the 2009 Rosch Musical Arts Series

The Rosch Musical Arts Series brings the highest caliber artists to campus to work with our students and engage with the community. Don't miss this year's exciting lineup ...

OCTOBER 11, 2009

Internationally renowned Verdehr Trio is a unique ensemble of violin, clarinet, and piano. They will perform an eclectic mix of old and new, including Mozart, Berlioz, Dvorak, Roberto Sierra and Bright Sheng.

OCTOBER 30, 2009

As part of our continuing partnership with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, we are thrilled that JoAnn Falletta and the BPO return this year with a beautiful program featuring Mahler's *Symphony No. 4* (Mary Wilson, soprano) and the Cello Concerto by Schumann with soloist Natasha Farny, SUNY Fredonia cello professor.

DECEMBER 9-10, 2009

Handel's *Messiah*

You are invited to re-discover the joy and excitement of this beloved holiday classic performed by some of today's most noted Baroque interpreters. These performances promise brisk tempi and heightened drama, all with a distinct Baroque sensibility.

This season, we are pleased to offer two performances of the work --December 9th in Rosch Recital Hall, and on December 10th at St. Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo.



## Scenes from the year



L to R: The Masterworks Chorus rehearses for *Camina Burana*; the Women's Chorus, Chamber Orchestra, soprano Angela Haas, tenor Joe Dan Harper, violist David Rose and trumpeter Roderick MacDonald perform the world premiere of Rob Deemer's *America Windows*; George Barr Hammel gives professor Ray Stewart a lesson in bassoon class; three members of the Improv. Collective perform for a fall concert; Professor Laura Koepke's son gets a closer look during a Children's Concert; "Granny" Mayo fills in for Dr. Stephen Mayo's music education class; Old Mason's entrance in the cool evening snow; Katherine Berquist and Renee Michelle Singlemann practice in the quad on a beautiful day.

## Alumnus John Poppo ('84) recognized for outstanding achievement

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John Poppo, a graduate of the School of Music in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in Sound Recording Technology (SRT), is the founder of Pop Productions, Inc. in New York City. Located near Times Square, he serves as producer, engineer, mixer, arranger and musician for the music industry's biggest stars including Michael Jackson, Janet Jackson, Mariah Carey, NSync, Seal, Madonna, Luther Vandross, Al Green and Vanessa Williams. He was honored at the 2008 Homecoming Weekend with an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Fredonia Alumni Association.



Poppo values the SRT program highly because it is designed to train the complete musician. The true sound engineer needs to know much more than the recording console. Experience playing music, learning the instruments, and reading scores large and small helped to set him above others in the industry. His classmates, he said, were also well served. "I could stand here all day and rattle off names of people I went to school with who have gone on to have really amazing careers. To the students in this program today, I can tell you, you're at the best place

"I'm not exaggerating in the least when I tell you that everything I've earned-- all of the successes I've enjoyed throughout my career -- I can trace back to what I learned right here at Fredonia," Poppo said during his acceptance speech. Having just flown in from Los Angeles where he was working on a television project, he admitted to being a little sleep deprived. "I might be a little red-eyed, but believe me I wouldn't miss this for anything."

you can be if you want to get into this business. There's no better place to learn."

Afterward the presentation, when he took a tour of the new recording studio that was dedicated in 2007, he chuckled, "That's a far cry from what we had 25 years ago. But we had what really mattered most: great teachers. Professors like David Moulton, Phyllis East, Keith Peterson and Harry Jacobson... they're the reason I'm standing here today."

## Alumnus leads winning group in national orchestra competition

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On March 20, 2009, students from the Stringendo Orchestra School, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., under the direction of Jonathan Handman, ('02, M.A. Orch. Conducting) competed in the 2009 National Orchestra Festival. This annual competition is held in conjunction with the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) National Conference, which took place this year in Atlanta, GA from March 19th to 21st. Student orchestras from around the country compete and receive placements, ratings, comments and master class opportunities from leading clinicians and adjudicators in the industry. Stringendo's most advanced orchestra, Vivace, earned first place in the youth orchestra category, as well as "Grand Champion" of the National Orchestra Festival. This earned them the opportunity to perform a winners' concert, open to all conference attendees and other competing orchestras from the festival.



# SCHOOL OF MUSIC CLASS NOTES

## 1940s

**Theresa M. Lund, '46**, (music ed.) shared an article written about her by Andrea Kimbriel in the Clarence Bee, "Clarence resident shares hope through creativity," which described her fight against illness and her resolve to continue performing at local nursing homes. Theresa taught music in the Lancaster (N.Y.) Central School District for 43 years.

**Marilyn (Schueler) Fabricatore, '47**, (music ed.) donated a copy of her recently-published book of poetry, "You, Me, and a Cup of Hot Tea," to Reed Library. After graduating she taught music for a year and then switched to teaching kindergarten for nine years.

**Walter Reitz, '47**, (music ed.) was honored in May 2008 by the Amherst (N.Y.) Male Glee Club at its annual awards banquet for his direction of the club for 60 years.

**Dr. George Holden, '49**, (music ed.) retired from Northern Illinois University in 1986, and from his private practice in psychology in 1987. He directed choirs, bands and a bell choir at a senior center in Denton, Texas, from 1988 until 1999. Dr. Holden now lives in Manhattan, takes classes at the New School, and is enjoying New York City.

## 1950s

**Warren C. (music ed.) and Anne (Tiffert) Wohltjen, '51**, (music ed.) of Georgia celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary on Aug. 19, 2008.

**Dr. Charles Burnsworth, '53**, (music ed.) of Oneonta, N.Y., represented SUNY Fredonia at the inauguration of Dr. Nancy Kleniewski as SUNY Oneonta's seventh president. He was recently honored by having a scholarship fund established in his name at SUNY Oneonta by former members of the Women's Glee Club as a tribute to his leadership and dedication to outstanding choral performance and to recognize his contribution to their personal lives. Dr. Burnsworth served the music department at the college for 45 years a professor of music. It was also anticipated that he would be elected to the department's Hall of Fame in early 2009.

**Valera (Morton) D'Esopo, '54**, (music ed.) of Pittsford, N.Y., traveled in 2007 with her two daughters and a granddaughter on a genealogy trip to Germany, visiting cousins they had never met. She is also enjoying tennis and taking courses at a local senior center.

**Dr. James Lyke, '54**, (music ed.) co-founder of the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy, was honored at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy's conference this summer with its 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Lyke's colleague, Tony Caramia, '73, (applied music) performed a musical tribute during the award ceremony. Dr. Lyke was also featured in the May/June issue of *Clavier Companion* magazine.

**Fr. William "Bill" Persia, '56**, CSC, (music ed.) has moved from North Dartmouth, Mass., to Dade City, Fla., to assist with the Spanish apostolate as parochial vicar at St. Rita Catholic Church.

A group of SUNY Fredonia educators including **Lyn (Curtis), '58**, (elem. ed.) and **Vincent Aiosa, '60**, (music ed.); **Dan Schmid, '61**, (music ed.), **Russ Henze, '61**, (music ed.), and **Ron Sutherland, '61**, (music ed.) participated in the 2008 American Music Abroad Tour. **Mr. Aiosa, '60**, (music ed.) of Newfield, N.Y., also represented SUNY Fredonia at the inauguration of Ithaca College's eighth president, Dr. Thomas R. Rochon, on April 17.

**Jeanette (Kaufmann) Kuck, '58**, (music ed.) retired in 1992 from teaching elementary general music in the Eden (N.Y.) Central Schools.

**Sallie (Shapley) Pullano, '58**, (music ed.) served as co-chair of the Committee to Re-elect Judith Claire as Family Court Judge in Chautauqua County, N.Y.

## 1960s

**Donald Nyquist, '62, '67**, (music ed.) reports that he completed 10 years of full-time caregiving for his wife, Carol, who has passed away. He has increased his activities, including music, in retirement on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee.

**Frederick Renz, '62**, (music ed.) directed the program, "Printemps à Paris," with Early Music New York at St. James Church in New York City. Early Music New York's thirty-fourth season was celebrated in 2008-2009 under Fred as its director and founder.

**Richard Nunemaker, '64**, (music ed.) retired as a member of the Houston (Texas) Symphony after 41 years. André Previn hired Richard in 1967 as a clarinetist, bass clarinetist and saxophonist. On Labor Day in 2008, KUHF Houston Public Radio and Bob Stevenson presented the "Front Row" Richard Nunemaker Special, a retrospective of his career. His newest CD, with pianist/composer/producer Paul English, is "The Louisville Project," and was recorded immediately following a performance on the campus of the University of Louisville (Ky.). Richard will continue commissioning and performing new music for clarinet and saxophone, teach at the University of St. Thomas, keep an active private studio and perform as a freelance musician in the Houston area.

**Mary Anne Harp, '63**, (music ed.) was honored by the Arts Council for Chautauqua County in April 2008 for her work with many arts organizations as a music director, conductor, trumpet player and event organizer.

**Doug Hawkins, '63**, (music ed.) joined the Charlottesville, Va., Oratorio Society in January 2008. On March 9, 2008, the 90-member choir presented Ralph Vaughn Williams', "Sea Symphony," complete with two soloists and a full orchestra. The symphony is based on a Walt Whitman poem, done in four movements; the choir sings in all four movements. The difficulty of the symphony was described by the conductor, Thomas Vining, as making Beethoven's Ninth look like child's play. The concert played to a full house.

**Loren Adams, '69**, (music ed.) of East Bethany, N.Y., has retired as an elementary librarian/music teacher in the Addison (N.Y.) Central School District.

**Brian Bogey, '69**, (music ed.) was honored by the Arts Council for Chautauqua County in April 2008 for his work as an arts educator in southern Chautauqua County.

## 1970s

**Nina (Russo) Karbacka, '70**, (music ed.) was named by the Western New York Chamber Orchestra as the recipient of its 2009 Outstanding Music Educator Award. She has taught music for the Jamestown (N.Y.) Public Schools for 36 years. She began the Suzuki Strings program in the Jamestown Public Schools 32 years ago and was the founder of the Chautauqua Regional Youth Symphony in 1986.

**Linda (Stradley) Staiger, '70**, (music ed.) is retired from Alfred Almond (N.Y.) Central School, but continues to be busy with music activities.

**Onaje Allan Gumbs, '71**, (music ed.) and his quartet, with special guest vocalist/performance artist M. Nahadr, appeared April 5, 2008, at the Cachaca Jazz & Samba Club in New York City. He also appeared in a "Post Turkey Day Jazz Celebration" at Sweet Rhythm in New York City in November 2008.

**Dr. Stephen Markuson, '71**, (music ed.) from Oneonta, N.Y., represented SUNY Fredonia at the inauguration of Hartwick College President Margaret L. Drugovich in October 2008. Stephen is a faculty member at Hartwick.

**William J. Pendziwiatr, '71**, (music ed.) was elected president of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA). He has already served as one of 12 district presidents and received the PMEA Citation of Excellence in 2002. William was band director of Crestwood High School from 1984 until 2005.

Pianist **Elenora Seib, '71**, (music ed.) performed in February in, "Boheme to Broadway," at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House.

**Patti (Coyle) Dunham, '72**, (applied music) performed Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the San Francisco Symphony as a member of the New York Choral Artists at Carnegie Hall in September 2008. She also performed and acted as musical director for Nikki Blonsky's show at Feinstein's nightclub in Manhattan. She has appeared as a soloist with the Philip Glass Ensemble on national and international tours, The Dessoff Choirs,

The Spirit of America Symphony Orchestra Pops, and in many other programs, concerts and at numerous jazz clubs and events in the tri-state area of New York City. She is currently a teaching artist for Tilles Center for the Performing Arts.

**Maxine Davis, '73**, (music ed.) of New York City, a certified Feldenkrais practitioner, participated in a body mapping conference at SUNY Fredonia in September 2008. She has been teaching the Feldenkrais Method and voice since 1991 at the 92nd St Y in New York City, at Chautauqua Institution in the summers, and privately. She has created a website, [www.maxinedavis.net](http://www.maxinedavis.net) and was interviewed for four articles appearing in Classical Singer magazine in October 2008 through January 2009 about using the Feldenkrais Method as a learner and/or teacher of the art of singing.

**Donald Keddle, '74, '98**, (music ed.) was honored as a guest conductor at the Chautauqua All-County Music Festival held in 2008 at Chautauqua Institution. He retired as a music teacher at Fredonia Central School.

**James C. Pace, '75**, (music ed.) retired after 32 years of teaching instrumental music and 10 years as department chair in the Lake Shore Central School District. He plans to continue to perform cello and tuba professionally in the Western New York area with bands and ensembles.

**Allan Wilson, '75**, (music perf.) reports from England that he works about once a month in Bratislava (Slovenia), recording for film/video games/television/CDs. He works mainly at home, orchestrating and arranging. He has also recorded in London with the Philharmonia Orchestra at Abbey Road and Air studios, and is "looking forward to visiting Fredonia again soon."

**Dr. Deborah (Anders) Silverman, APR, '76, '79**, (music ed., English) former director of communications in the Office of College Relations at SUNY Fredonia and now an assistant professor of communication at Buffalo State College, was the recipient of the 2008 May C. Randazzo Outstanding Practitioner award presented in June 2008 by the Buffalo/Niagara Chapter of the Public

Relations Society of America. She was also elected as a Director-at Large to the national board of the Public Relations Society of America at the organization's annual conference in Detroit, Mich. in October 2008.

A musical work composed by **Roland Martin, '77**, (music ed.) "A Rose Beside the Water," a song cycle based on poems by Pablo Neruda, was performed by the Buffalo Chamber Players during its October 2008 concert. He also performed the work during his faculty recital at the State University at Buffalo.

**Dr. James L. Klages, '78**, (music ed., music perf.) is a professor of trumpet at the School of Music at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond and former cornet soloist with The President's Own Marine Band. After being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1989 and medically retired from the military, he taught trumpet in Colorado. Today, he reports after new treatment, "My life has turned around!" and is the subject of a documentary by former student Sam Karp. To see the movie trailer, persons should visit [healedthefilm.com](http://healedthefilm.com).

The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and Erie County Music Educators Association named **Kristie (Krahn) Schlewitt, '78**, (music ed.) as the outstanding classroom/vocal music educator for 2009 in their "Excellence in Music Education" program. She is the music specialist at Maple East Elementary School in Williamsville and was a teacher leader for People to People this summer in Australia.

## 1980s

**James Knapp, '80**, (music ed.) is artistic director of Bayou City Performing Arts in Houston, Texas, a choral organization of 160 singers including the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston, the Bayou City Women's Chorus and Bayou City Chorale.

**Michael Shaw, '80**, (music ed.) was named director of the American Legion Band of the Tonawandas, Post 264. He has been band director for 18 years at Frontier High School

in the Hamburg (N.Y.) Central School District.

**Dr. Thomas Erdmann, '81**, (music ed.) teaches trumpet and jazz studies at Elon (N.C.) University and is director of the Elon University Symphony Orchestra. He has published over 70 articles, over 200 reviews of compact discs, books and music; is the author of two books, and is on the staff of JazzReview.Com and the jazz editor of the International Trumpet Guild Journal.

**Sue Lichtenberg, '81**, (music ed.) planned to retire after 25 very successful years of teaching music. Currently, Sue is the band director at Marlboro (N.Y.) High School and prior to that was band director at New Paltz Middle School. She adds, "It has been a great ride and SUNY Fredonia gave me the tools that I needed to make my career what I wanted it to be." She would love to hear from old friends at [lichts@aol.com](mailto:lichts@aol.com).

**Domonic Sack, '83**, (sound. rec. technology) of Stamford, Conn. is a sound designer and executive vice president of Sound Associates, Inc. He has worked on events including the Metropolitan Opera concert during the Summer of 2008 in Brooklyn as systems engineer, and worked on the "Tale of Two Cities" at the Hirschfield Theatre as sound designer.

**Numa Saisselin, '85**, (music ed.) has been the CEO of the Count Basie Theatre, a 1,500-seat historic theater in Red Bank, N.J., since 2002. He is also a board member of the League of Historic American Theatres, and the producer of the Jersey Shore Rock-

N-Roll Revue. Named a major presenting organization by the State of New Jersey and listed by Pollstar magazine as one of the top 100 worldwide theatres for ticket sales, the Basie recently completed a \$10 million restoration, funded in part by an historic benefit concert by Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band.

**Lisa Brigantino, '86, '88**, (music theory, music theory/comp.) and her husband, Dr. Thomas Millioto, '88, (music perf.) of Brooklyn, N.Y., wrote and recorded the music for a national television advertising campaign for Plato's Closet, an apparel store chain. They collaborate regularly on composing and studio work for film and television projects. Lisa continues to tour internationally with Lez Zeppelin, an all-girl, all-Led Zeppelin tribute band, in June 2008 headlining at the Bonnaroo Music Festival in Tennessee. For more information, interested persons should visit Lisa's website at [www.lisabrig.com](http://www.lisabrig.com).

**Dr. David Bower, '88**, (music perf.) earned his Ph.D. in Music Education from New York University. He celebrates his 15th anniversary as Director of Music and organist at the Catholic Church of St. Ann in Raritan, N.J., and presented research on music education technology at the 2008 conference of the International Society of Music Education in Bologna, Italy.

**Dr. Thomas Millioto, '88**, (music perf.) also see 1986. Tom teaches guitar privately through CUNY Hunter and at the Brooklyn Queens Conservatory of Music. He played guitar in the theme music for Emeril

Lagasse's new show, "Emeril Green" on the Plant Green television channel. For more information, interested persons should visit Tom's website at [www.tomimusic.com](http://www.tomimusic.com).

## 1990s

**Anthony Casuccio, '91**, (sound rec. technology) played a key role in the recording of two albums honored with 2008 Grammy award nominations. In addition to operating his recording studio in Buffalo, N.Y., he also teaches sound recording technology at Villa Maria College, and serves as vice president of the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame.

Pianist **Dr. David Curtin, '91**, (music perf.) was named a Steinway Artist, along with his wife, Hyun Ju. While at Fredonia he studied under Steinway Artist and Professor Emeritus Robert Jordan.

**Colleen (Quigley) Green, '93**, (musical theatre) is directing the Off Broadway Children's Theatre spring production of "Honk Jr." A freelance director, voice teacher and drama coach, Colleen had been executive artistic director of the Historic Holly Theatre in Dahlonega, Ga. for seven years, where she created its Holly Children's Theatre program.

**Janeen (Steff) (music therapy) and Gregory Thompson, '94**, (sound rec. technology) reported in from Brooklyn, N.Y. Greg is a freelance audio engineer for ABC-TV and Janeen is director of Volunteers for the Hospice Department of the Visiting Nurse

### Call for archive submissions

Do you have old photographs, programs, articles and news clippings from your time at SUNY Fredonia? If you're cleaning out your collection, please consider donating these items to the Archives and Special Collections at Daniel A. Reed Library.

This repository holds manuscript collections, local history holdings, rare book collections, and archives of the College, but currently has several gaps in representing the School of Music over the years.

For more information about the archives and special collections, please contact Jeremy Linden at (716) 673-3183 or [jeremy.linden@fredonia.edu](mailto:jeremy.linden@fredonia.edu).



## SCHOOL OF MUSIC CLASS NOTES (CONTINUED)

Service of New York. They have two sons, Jonathan, 5, and Liam, 3.

**Harry Frank, '95**, (sound rec. technology) is a freelance motion graphics designer in Detroit, Mich., working for various clients in Chicago, Ill., and Los Angeles, Calif.

**Leslie Anne Lewis, '96**, (music ed.) reports from England that she is a freelance conductor and teacher working in London.

**Andrew Alesso, '97**, (music therapy) continues as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor at Harborcreek Youth Services. He was music director and pianist for productions of "My Way – A Tribute to Frank Sinatra" and "Forever Plaid – Plaid Tidings" at the Riverside Inn Theatre, as well as played piano and sang at several schools and churches in Erie, Pa.

**Dr. Michael Eglin, '98**, (music comp.) completed his Ph.D. in Music Composition at the University of California at Santa Barbara and his choral works are published through Santa Barbara Music Publishing. Michael teaches theory, composition and fundamentals at Santa Barbara City College, as well as serves as director of music/organist at Elmo Presbyterian Church and artistic director for the eight-voice a cappella group, the Adelfos Ensemble. In addition, his works, plus those of **Professor Emeritus Donald Bohlen** and **Carmen Jude Aquila, '98**, (music comp.) were performed at the event, "In Celebration of Emily Dickinson" sponsored by the Northport (N.Y.) Art Coalition in cooperation with the Northport/East Northport Library.

**Melissa Kate (Miller), '98**, (musical theatre) of Buffalo, N.Y., has joined "Artfully Aware," an organization promoting human rights through the arts, and serves as its drama consultant. She also continues to perform a "sultry cabaret blues" act.

**Keith J. Hall, '99**, (music ed.) earned his M.A. in Education/Administration and Supervision from the University of Phoenix in July 2008. He also received the Distinguished Teacher Award from the National Society of High School Scholars in May 2007, and is currently director of Bands and Choirs, and Fine and Performing

Arts chair at The Sarasota (Fla.) Military Academy. Friends can reach him through e-mail at [susannkeith@comcast.net](mailto:susannkeith@comcast.net).

**Carolyn Castiglia, '99**, (musical theatre) returned to SUNY Fredonia in October 2008 to perform her stand-up comedy routine in The Spot. She went on the road in October with the Obama Girls of Comedy.

### 2000s

**Sarah (Phillips) Eglin, 2000**, (music ed.) is children's music director at El Montecito Presbyterian Church in Santa Barbara, Calif. She has been working extensively as a music director in youth theater in the Santa Barbara area for the last eight years and has a private piano studio of 15 students.

**Marcus Goldhaber, 2000**, (mus. theatre) performed at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House on April 17 as part of its 2008-2009 Great Performers Concert Series. He released his latest CD, "Take Me Anywhere," in November 2008 and is a singer/songwriter in the New York City club scene specializing in vocal jazz stylings. The CD garnered a terrific review in the January 12 issue of People magazine.

**Kimberlee (Scheetz) Sheppard, MT-BC, '02**, (music therapy) is a music therapist at the Partners in Care/Together for Kids program at Hope Hospice and Community Services in Cape Coral, Fla. She was noted in an article printed in the Fort Myers News-Press for her work with a physically and developmentally challenged student whose dream was to perform the national anthem with his high school's marching band; he realized his dream partly through Kim's efforts and in Fall 2008 played cymbals several times during performances of the anthem with the Ida Baker Bulldogs marching band.

**Dr. Benjamin Albright, '03**, (music perf.) joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in August 2008 as a trumpeter/cornetist. He performs with the Marine Band, Marine Chamber Orchestra, and Marine Chamber Ensembles at the White House, in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, and across the country during the band's annual concert tour. He

earned his master's and doctoral degrees in Music Performance from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and has performed with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, the National Repertory Orchestra in Breckenridge, Colo., and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

**Adam Phillips, '03**, (musical theatre) released his debut album, "Come Home," a collection of olde time hymns and gospel songs. He runs a private voice studio, teaches theater at the Montessori Center School, and is the cantor and psalmist at the Old Mission of Santa Barbara, Calif. Adam has also been very active as a soloist in several performance ensembles in the greater Santa Barbara area.

**Christopher Babbage, '03, '07**, (music ed.) has been working as a musical director, conductor and keyboardist across the country. He conducted "Les Misérables" at the Tuacahn Center for the Arts in Utah and played keyboards on the national tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Cats."

**Anneke Ieda, '04**, (music perf.) has joined the Kenan Center in Lockport, N.Y., as a string instructor.

**Maria Fasciano, '05**, (music perf.) is continuing her studies with Rita Shane. She completed her master's degree in vocal performance at the Eastman School of Music, and performed with the Chautauqua Opera during the summer of 2008 one of 26 young professionals selected for the opera's Young Artists Program. She also performed "A European Tour" of music with baritone Lon Arnold at the First Presbyterian Church in Youngstown, N.Y.

AmeriCorps service program member **Kyle Henning, '05**, (interdis. studies/music bus.) was profiled in an msnbc.com article by Mike Stuckey, "AmeriCorps' helps river town take a stand," about the important role he and other AmeriCorps workers had in helping to coordinate volunteer and liaison efforts during June 2008 flooding in Clarksville, Mo. While based with a St. Louis unit that specializes in disaster response. After his commitment to AmeriCorps ended in August 2008, Kyle was accepted into the Peace Corps

and left in December 2008 to begin pre-service training as a health and economic development Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia. During his first three months of service, Kyle lived with a host family in Ethiopia to become fully immersed in the country's language and culture.

Drummer, percussionist and composer **John Bacon, '06**, (music perf.) and his ensemble performed in March 2008 at Hallwalls in Buffalo. John is a lecturer in the Fredonia School of Music. He also teaches jazz and music theory at Villa Maria College, and coaches percussionists at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute and Canisius High School.

**Joseph Flaxman, '06**, (music perf.) was broadcast on National Public Radio in the mid-South in May 2008 performing selections from operas including his first performance of "Avant de quitter" from Gounod's "Faust," as a resident artist at

Opera Memphis (Tenn.). He also completed his master's degree at the Manhattan School of Music and performed the role of Il Conte in "The Marriage of Figaro" with the Martina Arroyo Foundation in July 2008 at the Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College, and then Wagner in "Faust" and Guglielmo in "Cosi fan Tutte" with Opera Memphis.

**Jessica Hunt, '06**, (music therapy) is pursuing a master's degree at SUNY Fredonia.

**Alissa Stahler, '06**, (music perf.) is in a master's degree program at the Manhattan School of Music, studying jazz voice with Peter Eldridge of the Grammy Award-winning New York Voices. During her first year of study, she auditioned for and was selected to perform on the nationally televised "Showtime at the Apollo" for Amateur Night.

**Karen Ewing, '08**, (music ed.) has been hired by the Enlarged City School District of Middletown, N.Y., as a teacher of general/choral music in grades two through five.

**Chad Sayers, '08**, (music ed.) is pursuing a master's degree at SUNY Fredonia.

**Christopher Valle, '08**, (music ed.) was hired as a string teacher for grades four through eight at Hyde Park (N.Y.) Central Schools.

**Justin Staebell, '09** (music perf.), was one of three singers to receive an encouragement award and cash prize at the Metropolitan Opera District Competition held on Jan. 11, 2009 in Buffalo, N.Y. Sixty-seven singers from across the U.S. took part in the event. As a recent graduate, Staebell plans to continue his education, focusing on voice and opera performance, and hopes to sing in opera houses around the world.

## STUDENT NEWS

The **Ethos New Music Society** had a busy 2008-2009 season. Four student composer concerts were presented this year including a choral concert and the *Past, Present, Future* concert that featured the two high-school winners of this year's Young Composer Competition: 1st Place - David Lawrence from Port Jefferson Station, NY with his clarinet trio, *The Four Seasonings*, and 2nd Place - Solomon Hoffman from Port Washington, NY with his woodwind quintet, *Miniatures*. The Ninth Annual NewSound Festival focused on the piano and featured several notable performers and composers from around the country. Participating in the festival were Stephen Scott and his Bowed Piano Ensemble (photo at right), composers David Rakowski and Randall Woolf, pianists Kathy Supové, Amy Briggs and Michelle Schumann and pianist/composer Amy Williams. Ethos also celebrated the release of its new website, at [www.ethosnewmusic.org](http://www.ethosnewmusic.org).



Throughout the year, the **Fredonia Guitar Society** presented the "Art of the Guitar Concert Series: Composer's Alive!" Each of the eight concerts featured music written for the guitar by living composers, which included world premiere performances. The concerts included performances by School of Music guitar professor, James Piorkowski, Fredonia alumni Marcus Wolf and Dennis Repino, guest artist Roland Dyens (photo at right), the Fredonia Guitar Ensemble and the Fredonia Guitar Quartet.



# SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

## 2008-2009

### HILLMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Lindsey Ackles  
Kelly Breczka  
Erin Deininger  
Cindy Gokey  
Hillary Grobe  
Steven Hoagland  
TienEn James Hsia  
Heather McGarvey  
John Murphy  
Taishi Nonaka  
Stephanie Patterson  
Tracy Robertson  
Kyle Sackett  
Christopher Valle

### ROSCH SCHOLARSHIP

Amanda Bailey  
Katherine Berquist  
Laura Dusart  
Cathleen Ernest  
Jessica Gelser  
Steven Lowe  
Patrick McNeill  
Daniel Ornowski  
Oriel Romano  
Andrea Roney  
Renee Singlemann  
Danielle Stier  
Jeffrey Stote  
Michael Tracy  
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Laura Noack, soprano  
Dana Barrett, horn  
Erie Saxophone Quartet:  
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***Congratulations!***



# SAVE THE DATE - HOMECOMING 2009

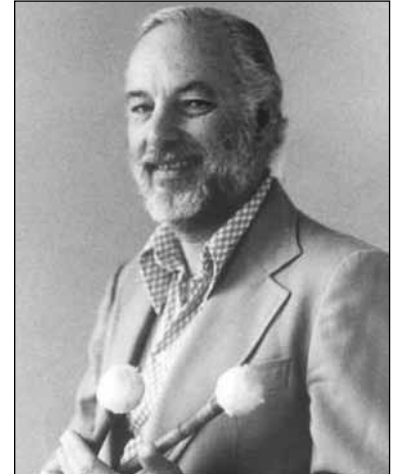
## Legacies in Words and Music: A Celebration of the Careers of Bob Schweik and Ted Frazeur

Please join us Saturday, October 10, when the School of Music celebrates the legacies of the late Robert Schweik, Distinguished Teaching Professor of English, and Theodore (Ted) Frazeur, Professor Emeritus of Music. The theme of the event is "Words and Music," and the inspiration comes from a poem, "The ABC Adventure," written by Joanne Schweik set to music by Ted Frazeur. On a concert at 3:00 p.m. in Rosch Recital Hall, members of the Western New York Chamber Orchestra will perform this work under Ted's baton and Susan Lord of the English Department will narrate.

Ted Frazeur was founder of percussion studies at Fredonia more than fifty years ago, so percussion will be a focus for the afternoon concert. Alumni percussionists are especially invited to get involved by participating in the Alumni Percussion Ensemble, which will rehearse Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Current percussion students will also form an ensemble that will perform on the concert.

At 8:00 p.m., the Wind Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Paula Holcomb will feature percussion faculty members John Bacon, Tiffany Nicely, and Kay Stonefelt in a performance of "The Glory and the Grandeur," by Russell Peck, a triple concerto for percussion and wind ensemble.

Another way to get involved is to give to the Frazeur Percussion Scholarship Fund. Once the fund becomes fully endowed at the \$10,000 threshold, the scholarship will live in perpetuity to benefit future SUNY Fredonia percussion students. Contributions can be made payable to the Fredonia College Foundation, 272 Central Avenue, Fredonia, NY 14063. Be certain to write Frazeur Scholarship in the memo of your check or make a payment via credit card. Gifts received by October 1 will be acknowledged in a presentation certificate at a reception following the performance.



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