Dear Alumni and Friends,

Greetings from the College of Music! I am delighted to welcome you to our new, web-based Alumni Magazine. You may also have noticed the College of Music web-site has received an update. We hope that our new, enhanced presence on the internet will be useful to our many friends and supporters, and we hope each of you will visit us often. As you review the contents of this edition of our Alumni Magazine, you will note that we have much to celebrate despite the many challenges we have faced with the downturn in the economy.

Before touching on a few highlights, though, I want to assure each of you that the College of Music remains strong in these turbulent times — our students succeed at the highest levels, the artistic and scholarly productivity of our faculty is recognized widely, both for its sheer quantity as well as for its extraordinary quality, and we remain a valued unit of Campus as evidenced by the $35 million renovation and expansion project for Ruby Diamond Auditorium currently underway.

The Ruby Diamond restoration will be a transformative project for the College of Music. For the first time in our long history, we will have a large performing venue that fully meets the needs of our student and faculty performers as well as our discriminating audiences. Acoustical excellence is the primary focus of the Renovation. When the renovated Auditorium opens in 2010, audiences will find a dramatically enlarged proscenium, parterre seating on two levels, and a reshaped interior. Each of these changes is designed to address previous acoustical inadequacies while enhancing the beauty of the structure. While the façade of the historic Westcott Building will not be altered, a new entrance featuring a monumental staircase will be added to the north side of the building. Other enhancements include a new rehearsal hall and a greatly expanded lobby area. Additional information concerning this project is available on the College of Music web-site at http://music.fsu.edu.

During the 2009 Spring semester, we were delighted to learn that The Florida State University was ranked third among the universities with the most published papers in the field of performing arts between 2003 and 2007. The study citing this ranking was distributed by Thomson Reuters, Science Watch (http://sciencewatch.com). To support its number 3 rank for Florida State, Science Watch produced a list of 71 journal articles written by faculty from various FSU arts programs. Of those articles, 56 were from music journals. This third-place ranking is particularly impressive in music, a discipline represented by over 600 accredited departments, schools and colleges throughout the United States. This external affirmation speaks directly to the extraordinary scholarly productivity of our faculty.

Once again we are pleased to recognize the many generous donors who included the College of Music in their giving priorities during the past year. Their gifts directly support our students through scholarships, guest artist appearances, master classes and travel to conventions, competitions and conferences. Two graduate student chamber ensembles, enhakē and the Mana Saxophone Quartet, received funding support enabling them to travel to national chamber music competitions. Both achieved first-place honors amidst highly competitive fields. The extent of our donor support is remarkable and further distinguishes our College of Music. We are most grateful.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue to advance the art of music and provide the finest education for our gifted students.

Sincerely,

Don Gibson, Dean
USO Records Ellen Zwilich Piano Works

On April 11 and 12, 2009 the University Symphony Orchestra under the direction Alexander Jiménez recorded three of Ellen Zwilich’s works for piano and orchestra. Piano faculty members Heidi Louise Williams and Read Gainsford were the pianists for Images for Two Pianos and Orchestra (1986). Guest pianist Jeffrey Biegel, who commissioned the Millennium Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra (2000) was also featured in Peanuts® Gallery for Piano and Orchestra (1996). John Hadden served both as recording engineer and producer.

Regarding the Millennium Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra, Zwilich has said: “The musical point of departure was a folk song my grandmother sang to me when I was a child. I can still hear her voice when I remember this, so it was a special pleasure to create a musical fantasy based on it.” The folk song only appears in its entirety towards the end of the two-movement work, but fragments of it provide the material for the work as a whole.

Images for Two Pianos and Orchestra (1986) was commissioned by the National Museum of Women in the Arts for the opening of their permanent gallery in Washington, D.C. Each movement is a tribute to one of the paintings in the Museum’s collection: I. Opening (to Self-Portrait 1917) by Alice Bailly; II. La Poupée Abandonnée by Suzanne Valadon; III. Iris, Tulips, Jonquils and Crocuses by Alma Thomas; IV. Bacchus No. 3 by Elaine DeKooning; and V. Spiritualist by Helen Frankenthaler.

Peanuts® Gallery for Piano and Orchestra (1996), commissioned by Carnegie Hall for the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, was premiered there by that ensemble with pianist Albert Kim on March 22, 1997. The piece was the subject of a prize-winning PBS documentary featuring The Florida State University Symphony Orchestra under Alexander Jiménez. The six movements, dedicated to Schulz, are intended as musical portraits of Peanuts® characters.

In “Schroeder’s Beethoven Fantasy,” Zwilich quotes the opening motive in Beethoven’s Hammerklavier Sonata, Op. 106, which she recalls seeing in the balloon above Schroeder’s piano in more than one Peanuts® strip. Linus and his “security blanket” inspired the second movement. Since he “always looks ready for a nap,” she wrote a lullaby. Zwilich decided to have Snoopy dance, since he often does so in Peanuts® strips. She chose the samba because it is both “hot” and “cool,” sophisticated and “a lot of fun.” Schulz hoped we recognized some of ourselves in Charlie Brown “since we are far more acquainted with losing than with winning.” Zwilich created a lament for Charlie, not a “terribly sad one” but an acknowledgement of times when we want to say “good grief.” His part-time nemesis Lucy is portrayed next. Schulz spoke of her inner violence, and Zwilich of her sweetness that quickly boils over into anger. Zwilich ends with a procession of the characters led by Marcie and Peppermint Patty, who are often portrayed marching in single-file. Everyone parades past us in proper order: Schroeder, Linus, Snoopy, and Charlie, who is interrupted by Lucy.

The project will be released on the Naxos recording label in the near future.
Award-winning enhakē Promotes Music Outreach

Drawing its name from the Seminole (Creek) word for sound or call, chamber music group “enhakē”- composed of FSU students Wonkak Kim (clarinet), M. Brent Williams (violin), Eun-Hee Park (piano), and Jayoung Kim (cello) - has been called “frighteningly good” (Tallahassee Democrat) and “invigorating” (WFSQ Nuances Show) by local media, accolades thoroughly underscored by their numerous recent competition successes.

Formed at The Florida State University in 2007, enhakē has made good time and again on its mission to “bring sublime chamber music to its audience with a sincere respect and love for the score.” In the two years since its inception, the group has collected an impressive array of recognitions, including the Grand Prize at the Yellow Springs Chamber Music Competition (2009), Gold Medal at the International Chamber Music Ensemble Competition (2008), Judges’ Special Recognition Award at the Plowman Chamber Music Competition (2008), and the James and Lola Faust Chamber Music Scholarship (2009). enhakē has also received the American Composers Forum’s Encore grant.

Featuring a vast repertoire ranging from classical masterworks by Beethoven and Mozart to their own arrangements of Piazzolla’s tangos, enhakē has received enthusiastic responses at the Promising Artists of the 21st Century Series (Costa Rica), OK MOZART Festival (Bartlesville, OK), Olivier Messiaen Centennial Celebration at Opperman Music Hall (Tallahassee, FL) and FSU’s Fourteenth Biennial New Music Festival. In addition, enhakē has performed guest artist recitals at universities in Oklahoma, Georgia, Florida, and Costa Rica. The distinctive instrumentation of the group allows the musicians the flexibility to perform a wide range of repertoire, from the Baroque through contemporary era.

As ensemble-in-residence for the Tallahassee Youth Orchestra, enhakē is an active promoter of educational outreach, and have given masterclasses at universities throughout the US and abroad. During a recent week-long residency in Costa Rica (in conjunction with the Centro Cultural Costarricense Norteamericano), the members enjoyed the opportunity to teach at the University of Costa Rica School of Music, Bach Institute of Music (San Jose), and the National Superior Institute of Music (Moravia). They have also given a lecture recital at the Florida State Music Teachers Association Conference (2009).

An exciting season awaits enhakē during 2009-10: the group has been invited to perform at the MAP Weill Recital Hall Chamber Music Series (New York, NY), William S. Newman Artists Series (Chapel Hill, NC), Ringling Museum Chamber Music Series (Sarasota, FL), Friday Musicale (Jacksonville, FL), Escape to Create Artists Series (Seaside, FL) and more. enhakē will also be holding artist-residencies at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Texas A&M University, Mesa State College (Grand Junction, CO), North Georgia College and State University, Valdosta State University (Valdosta, GA), and the Seaside Institute in Florida. Other season highlights include enhakē’s world premiere performance of works by Libby Larsen, Edward Knight and Steve Hicken, as well as collaborative efforts with composers Ladislav Kubik, Kristopher Maloy, and Peter Lieuwen. enhakē’s debut CD featuring newly commissioned works is set for release in 2010.

www.enhake.com
Mana Saxophone Quartet Wins Prestigious Awards

“The Mana Quartet is a beautifully balanced ensemble and a new bright light in the world of chamber music.”
- Ellen Taaffe Zwilich

Hurtling headlong into the world of professional chamber music, the Mana Saxophone Quartet is taking the chamber music world by storm.

The four College of Music students – Josh Meyers, Michael Hernandez, Michael Mortarotti, and Dannel Espinoza – each of whom studies saxophone at FSU with Professor Patrick Meighan, have earned critical acclaim for their sensitive and skillful presentation of chamber music.

Founded at FSU in 2004, the quartet, which has worked with the Raschèr Saxophone Quartet, the Corigliano String Quartet, and the Imani Winds, first gained national attention in 2007 when they were awarded First Prize at the National MTNA Chamber Music Competition and again when they were selected to appear as the first saxophone quartet ever to be invited to attend the Chamber Music Institute at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

In no way content to rest on their laurels, the quartet continues to deliver on their promise - a point emphasized by their most recent win at the 2009 Coleman International Chamber Ensemble Competition at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, CA. With this win, Mana has added another “first” to their impressive list of accomplishments: first saxophone quartet ever to win the prestigious Alice Coleman Grand Prize in the 63-year history of the contest.

“Although the Florida State saxophone program has a history of national prizewinners, the Mana Quartet’s achievement is unprecedented,” said Professor Meighan. “It was a privilege to coach such talented, dedicated and down-to-earth young men in an ensemble that prides artistry over virtuosity,” Meighan continued. “This group knew what they wanted to say in their competition pieces. They have become extremely adept at figuring out the meaning of the notes they play and relaying that meaning convincingly to audiences.”

One quirky feature unique to the Quartet is their use of historical instruments, built to circa 1840 specifications. Regarding their instrumentation, the Quartet maintains “[Adolphe Sax]…envisioned an instrument that would reconcile the timbres of the standard orchestra. The result was a tone that has been highly praised by composers such as Berlioz, Rossini, and Meyerbeer. Over the years, the saxophone has undergone acoustical changes which have given the instrument a different character. Audiences today readily notice these tonal differences and find the ‘vintage’ sound employed by the Quartet delightful.”

Last year the Mana Quartet’s busy performance schedule included appearances throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe; this year’s schedule, while not yet completed, is shaping up to be just as prolific and far-reaching.

www.manaquartet.com
Student Alphonso Horne Wins First Place in National Contest

The National Trumpet Competition is an annual competition held every March on the campus of George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. The College of Music is proud to announce that current student Alphonso Horne won first place at the 2009 National Trumpet Competition in the jazz division.

The competition is open to US students up to 28 years of age. Competitors are chosen based on applications and CD recordings sent in. In the jazz division, competitors must play a standard piece chosen by the competition committee, and one piece of their choice, performing both pieces in under 12 minutes, including set-up, tuning, and performance.

Alphonso studies with Dr. Christopher Moore.

The Florida State University College of Music

FSU’s 14th Biennial Festival of New Music

The College of Music presented its 14th biennial Festival of New Music from January 29-31, 2009. Housewright Eminent Scholar Christopher Theofanidis, who has served on the faculties of Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University and the Juilliard School was the featured guest composer. In addition, the featured new music guest ensemble was eighth blackbird. The Festival featured over 30 participating composers who were invited to campus to hear their music performed by various faculty and student chamber groups, as well as the New Music Ensemble, the Eppes String Quartet, University Symphony Orchestra, and Wind Orchestra. As always, the Festival would not have been possible without the collaborative efforts of many FSU music students, faculty, composers, theorists, performers, and conductors.

The Festival was organized by coordinator of Music Theory/Composition James Mathes, who chaired the Festival Committee as well as composition faculty colleagues Clifton Callender, Ladislav Kubik, and Mark Wingate. Leo Welch served as administrative adviser, and Sarah Gaskins as the Festival assistant. The visiting composers were unanimous in their praise for both the organization of the Festival, as well as the very high quality of musical performances.
FSU College of Music Jazz Program Receives a National Endowment for the Arts American Jazz Masterpieces Grant

by Erica Westcott

The College of Music jazz program received a 2009 American Jazz Masterpieces Grant administrated by the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs which presented the music of Cole Porter to over 3100 audience members in the Florida Panhandle. Professor Bill Peterson was the artistic director of the project, supplying the artistic vision, as well as the inventive arrangements that were presented throughout the two week span of the venture. The project consisted of a two-phase presentation by FSU jazz faculty and students. First was a community concert in Opperman Music Hall featuring FSU jazz faculty and internationally recognized jazz vocalist Inga Swearingen. This concert was free to the public in order to allow the people of Leon County an opportunity to experience excellence in jazz performance. Featured performers included Bill Peterson, piano, Inga Swearingen, voice, Scotty Barnhart, trumpet, Bill Kennedy, saxophone, Paul McKee, trombone, Rodney Jordan, bass, and Leon Anderson, drums. The program included compositions by Cole Porter (arranged by Bill Peterson) including “Night and Day,” “Love for Sale,” and “You’re the Top.”

In the second phase of the project, Professor Bill Peterson, four jazz undergraduate and graduate students, and one sound technician presented 12 performances to traditionally underserved schools and prison facilities within a 90 mile radius of Tallahassee. Three schools and two prisons also received a master class component wherein Professor Peterson and the students worked with the organization’s band or music group. Erica Westcott provided logistical support for the grant.

The project was an overwhelming success, reaching thousands of people. At the community concert, 90% of the respondents rated the musical quality a four or five on a scale of 5. Most impressive was the impact in the prisons: 33% of the inmates have never heard live jazz, yet 99% indicated that they would like to hear more and 97% placed the music quality in the four or five range. The project was generously supported with matching funds from the Knight Foundation, as well as the FSU Sponsored Research Foundation.

Accompanied by fellow jazz faculty members Leon Anderson (drums), Scotty Barnhart (trumpet), Rodney Jordan (bass), Bill Kennedy (saxophone), Paul McKee (trombone), and award-winning guest vocalist Inga Swearingen, Bill Peterson warms up at the piano in preparation for the 2009 NEA-funded American Jazz Masterpieces concert.
Clifton Callender (composition) Metamorphoses II, by Dr. Clifton Callender was commissioned by the FSMTA and received its premiere by the Hanna-Yang Duo during the 2nd General Session of the 2009 Annual Conference. (Above: Dr. Emily Hanna Crane, Dr. Clifton Callender, and Dr. Hui-Ting Yang.)

Michael Buchler (theory) was invited to guest lecture at Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music in April. He presented two talks: “The Perfect Musical: Some Thoughts about Drama, Music, and Structure in Guys and Dolls” and a talk about the problems associated with transformational modes of analysis. His article, “Modulation as a Dramatic Agent in Frank Loesser’s Broadway Songs” appeared in Music Theory Spectrum, vol. 30, no. 1. It marked the first time that an article on musical theater literature appeared in the Society for Music Theory’s print journal. In the fall, Prof. Buchler and his doctoral student, Alan Theisen, will present their collaborative work, “Elliott Carter and the Sorcerer’s Stone: All-Interval Tetrachords as Musical Building Blocks” at the Society for Music Theory’s annual meeting in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Kevin Fenton (choral conducting) serves as the president of the Florida Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. Additionally, he will be conducting director’s choruses in South Dakota and New York, all-state honor choirs in Alabama, Hawaii, Mississippi, and Missouri, and he will conduct the Florida State University Singers in services at St. Peters Basilica in Rome and St. Mark’s Basilica in (San Marco) in Venice as a part of University Singers Spring Break tour to Italy. His textbook Foundations of Choral Conducting has been adopted by over 30 universities throughout the country.

Anne Garee (piano technology) has continued to develop the new Master of Arts degree with an emphasis in piano technology for the College of Music. This past year, WFSU-TV produced a short video documentary showcasing the program which has become a wide-reaching recruiting tool and given this unique program exposure across the globe. This past fall, Garee was invited to teach a grand action redesign class at the Nordic Piano Convention in Denmark and enjoyed working with piano technicians from Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. Her current graduate students completed a two-week internship at the Sauter piano factory in Germany in May and join her to teach at the Piano Technicians Guild National Convention and Institute in Grand Rapids, Michigan in July. Visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpBnIrmklPA to see more.
Evan Jones (theory) had his article on Orlando di Lasso’s “Carmina chromatico” recently appear in the Journal of Schenkerian Studies, and his essay on Quantz’s categories of harmonic dissonance came out this spring in a book on performance practice edited by Timothy Watkins. Forthcoming publications include an essay on the first movement of Schubert’s Arpeggione Sonata in a book on sonata form edited by Gordon Sly, and an essay on Xenakis’s string quartets in his own 2-volume compilation of essays on 20th-century string quartets. He also chaired a session on 20th-century string quartets at the Society for Music Theory conference in November, and completed a three-year appointment to the Society for Music Theory committee for professional development. He also completed a two-year appointment to the board of Music Theory Southeast this spring. Dr. Jones continues to serve on the editorial board of Intégral, a peer-reviewed music theory journal.

At the Music Theory Southeast conference, Dr. Jones delivered a paper on Philip Glass’s harmonic language, which he will be giving again at the Society for Music Theory conference in October 2009. He was an invited panelist on a Mellon Foundation mutual mentoring panel (on the subject of music faculty seeking tenure) at the University of Massachusetts–Amherst in December 2008, where he also had a chance to speak about Philip Glass. Another lecture opportunity on Glass arose in conjunction with a visit to UNCG in March, where he also gave a recital with Deborah Bish and Deloise Lima (performing clarinet trios by Beethoven and Brahms). More recently he gave a short talk in advance of the screening of a documentary on Philip Glass at the Tallahassee Film Society. Dr. Jones performed Clifton Callender’s “Metamorphoses” for solo cello and delayed playback at the FSU Festival of New Music in January, at the Spark Festival in Minneapolis in February, and at the CMS southern regional conference later in February. He also had the pleasure of performing chamber music on campus with Eva Amsler and Leo Welch at the FSU Faculty Showcase recital in January and with visiting viola d’amore expert Myron Rosenblum and FSU colleagues in April.

Alexander Jiménez (conducting and director of orchestral activities) appeared as guest conductor of the MENC All-Eastern Orchestra in March, 2009, in Providence, Rhode Island. Orchestra personnel represented the top chairs from the all-state orchestras of twelve northeastern states. In April, Dr. Jiménez led the University Symphony Orchestra in performances of Images for Two Pianos and Orchestra, Millennium Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra, and Peanuts® Gallery by distinguished composer Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. Faculty colleagues Read Gainsford and Heidi Louise Williams, and guest pianist Jeffery Biegel, collaborated on the performances. The works were recorded and will be released on the Naxos label in 2010. In May, 2009, Dr. Jiménez served as the only American juror of the European Festival of Music for Young People held in Neerpelt, Belgium. He will return to Belgium in March, 2010, to begin a week-long residency at the Lemmens Conservatory of Music near Brussels. Christopher Ocasek (MM Orchestral Conducting) was named Outstanding Workshop Conductor of the Conductor’s Guild Conducting Workshops in Westchester, NY in October 2008. Christopher is currently in Berlin, Germany taking the first steps in his conducting career. Alex Dee (BME 2010) was selected as a participant in the prestigious Bard Conducting Institute at Bard College in New York under the direction of Harold Farberman. Brett Karlin (BM 2009) was selected as a participant of the South Carolina Conductor’s Institute. Both Alex and Brett were students of Dr. Jiménez during the last academic year.

Faculty Notes
Steve Kelly (music education) published the book *Teaching Music in American Society: A Social and Cultural Understanding of Music Education* through Routledge Press. Dr. Kelly also presented papers at the International Society for Music Education World Conference in Bologna, Italy, the International Society for Research in Music Behavior, the Desert Skies Symposium in Tucson, Arizona, and the Music Educators National Biennial Inservice Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Additionally, Dr. Kelly was asked to write several entries for the forthcoming *New Grove Dictionary of American Music*. He continues to serve on numerous editorial boards including that for the *Journal of Research in Music Education* and was recently named to the editorial board of the *Journal of Band Research*.

Matthew Lata (opera) recently staged new productions of *Don Giovanni* in New Orleans, *L’elisir d’amore* in Grand Rapids, and *Faust* in Memphis. This summer, he staged a new production of *Cosi fan tutte* for the National Theater of Costa Rica.

John W. Parks IV (percussion) was a featured clinician at PASIC 2007 in Austin (Symphonic Tambourine Lab), and was elected to the PAS Board of Directors for 2008-2010. He continues to work as President and Webmaster of the Florida PAS Chapter, and in 2008 gave a series of solo recitals, guest artist appearances and clinics at the University of Arkansas, Eastern NC PAS Day of Percussion, Truman State University, and the Ney Rosauro Summer Keyboard Seminar. John will be headlining the first-annual Thailand Brass and Percussion Conference in Bangkok, Thailand in July, which includes clinics, a solo recital, judging a solo marimba competition, and performing the Daugherty “Raise the Roof” with the Mahidol Symphony Orchestra. The FSU Percussion Ensemble hosted guests Lee Vinson (Boston Symphony Orchestra), Anders Astrand (international keyboard virtuoso), Matthew Duvall (eighth blackbird), Kevin Bobo (Indiana University) and Dan Moore (University of Iowa) during 2008, and plans to release their first ensemble recording entitled “Ten Windows” in Summer of 2010. The repertoire includes three commissions from David Skidmore, Clif Walker, and Kevin Bobo, as well as works by Blake Tyson and John Cage.

Bill Peterson (jazz piano) placed second at the Jacksonville Jazz Piano Competition on April 11, 2008. The piano competition has been part of the Jacksonville Jazz Festival for over 20 years. As part of his award, Peterson performed at Metropolitan Park as part of the three-day Jacksonville Jazz Festival.
Nancy Rogers (theory) is preparing the eighth edition of *Music for Sight Singing* (co-authored by Robert Ottman) for publication by Pearson Prentice Hall early in 2010. In the fall of 2008, she presented a paper entitled “Captivated by the Erlking: A Case for Studying Same-Text Settings” at the national meeting of the College Music Society, published “How Structured Improvisation Can Improve Sight-Singing Performance (and More)” in *AP® Music Theory: Teaching Sight Singing*, ed. Ken Stephenson (New York: The College Board), and completed her four-year term as Secretary of the Society for Music Theory. Dr. Rogers was a Fellow at the 2009 Mannes Institute for Advanced Studies in Music Theory, and she will be a keynote speaker at the upcoming Musical Ear Conference hosted by Indiana University in September. She is currently President of Music Theory Southeast and also serves as a Faculty Reader and Consultant for the Educational Testing Service as well as a Reviewer for the Educational Policy Improvement Center.

Pamela Ryan (viola) was invited to the 2009 American String Teachers National Convention in Atlanta to provide the session, “Seven Symmetries to Save Time.” She was also the 2009 winner of COFRS grant for “The Capricious Composer” - the study (at the Primrose International Viola Archive) and performance (on Youtube) of original caprices for viola.

Denise Von Glahn (musicology) since summer 2008, Associate Professor, Denise Von Glahn has been a panelist at the Ecocriticism and Musicology session at the American Musicological Society Annual Conference in Nashville, TN, given an invited paper at Catholic University entitled “On Nature’s Behalf: ‘Thinking Like a Mountain in Music’,” and an invited lecturer to the Cawthon Hall Honors College at FSU entitled “Work and Play: How, if you’re lucky, they’re the same thing.” She recently presented a refereed paper, “From Nature Essayist to Ecofeminist: Composing Along a Continuum,” at the Feminist Theory and Music 10 Conference held at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. She published a review in the Journal of the Society for American Music and learned that her first book, Sounds of Place: Music and the American Cultural Landscape, (2003) will be published in paperback by the University Presses of New England this summer. In the past academic year Von Glahn was elected Vice President of The Society for American Music, signed a contract with Indiana University Press for her new book “Skillful Listeners: American Women Composers and Nature,” won a COFRS Grant from Florida State to support work on that project, learned that a previous book, Leo Ornstein: Modernist Dilemmas, Personal Choices written with Michael Broyles, won the Irving Lowens Memorial Book Award from the Society for American Music for the best book on American music, and was promoted to Full Professor.

Leo Welch (associate dean), with Florida State University College of Music alums Nancy Marsters (MM 1982) and Ed Prasse (BME 1994, MME 2006), co-authored a second edition of Second Year Guitar: a Classroom Text, published through Class Guitar Resources. The text is used by class guitar music educators throughout the nation and Canada. In addition, in May 2009, Mel Bay Publications released Welch’s Early American Music for Flute and Guitar. The arrangements feature a number of sets of early American melodies that Welch arranged for flute and guitar according to the classical guitar conventions of the early 1800s. Welch continues to be active as a guitarist, and performed both with the University Singers in fall 2009, as well as the Festival Singers of Florida, a professional chorus in Orlando.

Heidi Louise Williams (piano) will release her first solo disc for Albany Records in 2010, featuring contemporary works by American composers. She also recently recorded Ellen Taaffe Zwilich’s Images for 2 Pianos and Orchestra in collaboration with pianist Read Gainsford and the FSU Symphony Orchestra, to be featured on a disc of Zwilich’s complete orchestral/piano works for 2010 release on the Naxos label.
Ellen Zwilich (composition) had the premiere of her Symphony No. 5 by the Juilliard Orchestra, James Conlon, conductor, at Carnegie Hall, on 10/27/08. She also had premiere performances of her Septet for Piano Trio and String Quartet by the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio and Miami String Quartet, at 92nd St. Y, NYC on 4/28-29/09, the Kennedy Center on 5/5/09, the Virginia Arts Festival on 5/6/09, and the Chamber Music Society of Detroit on 5/16/09. A “Zwilich Festival” was held in Detroit where her Septet for Piano Trio and String Quartet, and the Quintet for alto saxophone and string quartet were performed by Erik Ronmark and the Pacifica String Quartet on 4/16/09; the Detroit Symphony performed her Double Concerto with Jamie Laredo, violin, Sharon Robinson, cello, Hans Graf, conductor on 5/21-22-23/09. There were also concerts at FSU featuring her Millennium Fantasy with Jeffrey Biegel, piano; Images, with Read Gainsford and Heidi Louise Williams, pianos; and Peanuts Gallery with Biegel, piano, and the Florida State University Symphony Orchestra, Alexander Jiménez, conductor, on 4/2-3/09. The pieces were recorded for release on the Naxos label.

TRIO SOLIS

Resident faculty chamber ensemble Trio Solis (“of the sun”), Gregory Sauer (cello), Corinne Stillwell (violin), and Read Gainsford (piano), made their Carnegie Hall debut in 2009; this acclaimed performance provided a superb start to the Trio’s mission “to celebrate the piano trio repertoire, from the rich traditions of its origins to the innovations of the 21st Century.”
Alumni News

1960s

Harold Schiffman (DM 1962), was honored with the North Carolina premiere of his cantata *Alma* (2002) on March 1, 2008. The program, titled “The Schiffman Retrospective,” celebrated Greensboro native Harold Schiffman on the occasion of his 80th birthday at the UNCG School of Music Recital Hall.

Cornelia Yarbrough (MM 1968, Ph.D. 1973), the Derryl and Helen Haymon Professor of Music Education at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, had two articles published in the Spring/Summer 2007 issue of *Update: Applications of Research in Music Education*. “Time Usage of Middle and High School Band Directors in Sight-Reading Adjudication” was co-authored with Evelyn K. Orman, Sheri Neill, and Jennifer A. Whitaker. “Time Usage by Choral Directors Prior to Sight-Singing Adjudication” was co-authored with Evelyn K. Orman and Sheri Neill. The journal is published by MENC.

1970s

Carolyn Minear (BME 1970, MM 1977), was inducted into the Florida Music Educators’ Hall of Fame in 2008.

Capt. Winston E. Scott (BME 1972), was inducted into the 2009 Signature Sinfonian class of recipients. The Signature Sinfonian award recognizes alumni members who have achieved a high standard of accomplishment in their field or profession, thereby bringing honor to Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Capt. Scott, a distinguished navy pilot and NASA astronaut, is one of ten members in the 2009 class of inductees.

1980s

Gregory Jones (BM 1982), Professor of Music at Truman State University, was a featured performer on the first ever China Trumpet Guild Conference held in Beijing in May 2007. Dr. Jones presented masterclasses and performances at this prestigious event as well as in several other Chinese Cities. In July 2007, Dr. Jones traveled to the Greek island of Corfu to perform and teach as part of the Fifth Ionian Academy of Music. He joined principal brass players from the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, the Mnozil Brass, Christian Lindberg, and other professionals from Europe to help students from around the world improve their musical skills.

Greg Jones (left) with Swedish trombone soloist Christian Lindberg

Craig Evans (MM 1985, MME 1986), left his position as Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Ithaca College to return to Florida, to become the Executive Director of the Foundation for Orange County Public Schools, Inc., in Orlando.

Larry R. Blocher (DM 1986), director of the John M. Long School of Music at Troy University in Alabama, has been selected as a Lowell Mason Fellow by the National Association for Music Education (MENC). The award, named for the co-founder of the Boston Academy of Music, is given to those who have made significant contributions to music education. Since the inception of the Fellows award in 2002, fewer than 100 recipients have been selected.
Alumni News

Thomas Lanners (BM 1987), professor of piano at Oklahoma State University, presented a session at the Music Teachers National Association conference in Atlanta in March of 2009 and gave master classes at the Universities of Colorado-Boulder and Northern Colorado in February. In September 2008 he presented a master class and two lectures, and taught lessons to students of Prof. Barry Snyder, during a one-week residency at the Eastman School of Music. Thomas also presented a lecture and coaching session at the Plays Well With Others Eastman Summer Institute in July 2008. His latest CD, titled *Ned Rorem: Piano Music Volume 2*, was released in April on the Centaur label, and with this disc Lanners has now recorded nearly the entire piano solo output of this renowned composer. In a review of his first Rorem disc, *American Record Guide* wrote: "Anyone who cares about mainstream 20th Century piano music should seek out this superlative recording."

Randye Jones (MM 1993), soprano and researcher was interviewed on Iowa Public Radio’s The Exchange about her research project, The Art of the Negro Spiritual, on April 28, 2008. Jones discussed the history of spirituals and the unique nature of performing spirituals set for concert performance. She also talked about how she became interested in this American musical form and included several clips from recitals she had given recently. In addition to her performance and lecture activities, Jones serves on the library staff at Grinnell College.

Ron DeStefano (BM 1996), had his debut solo CD, *Where Is Love...* released on February 14, 2009. This full length studio album weaves 14 songs together from the worlds of theatre, jazz, pop, and cabaret to create an emotional narrative exploring the joys and challenges of romance.

Stephanie Rea (MM 1996, DM 1999, MM 2000), was awarded a Fulbright grant as a Senior Lecturer and Researcher at the Hochshule für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Frankfurt am Main, Germany for the spring 2009 semester. Rea is Associate Professor of Music at Murray State University where she is the Music Theory Unit Head. In May 2008 she performed in Merkin Hall at the Kaufman Center in New York City and had an article published in July 2008 in *Flute Talk*. 
Alumni News

L. Curtis Hammond (DM 1997), former horn student of William Capps, is serving as Interim Chair of the Morehead State University Department of Music. The department currently has 35 faculty and 265 music students.

Rebecca Lister (DM 1997), has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Music at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pennsylvania.

Rebecca Zapan (BA 1997), was named Jacksonville’s Musician of the Year 2008, and recently received four nominations in the Just Plain Folks Awards 2009 in the categories of Best Cabaret Album, Best Cabaret Song, and Best Vocal Jazz Song.

2000s

Robert Peavler (DM 2000), will begin a new position this fall (2009) on the voice faculty at Eastern Michigan University. He will be leaving his position on the voice faculty at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Christina Mayer Watts (BM 2000), is the Administrator for Assisted Living and Senior Housing at the Sanctuary at Woodland in Brighton, Michigan for Trinity Senior Living Communities.

Autumn Schaefer Ames (BME 2001), is the Executive Director of the Arts & Cultural Alliance of Central Florida, a non-profit trade and marketing association that exists to increase participation in the arts in the seven counties within Central Florida. She is currently the Chair of the Orlando Young Nonprofit Professionals Network, a program that provides professional and social opportunities for future nonprofit leaders and is active with the organization on a national level. In addition, she serves on A Gift for Music’s Advisory Board and was selected in 2009 as one of Orlando Business Journal’s Forty Under 40.

Sara Hagen (Ph.D. 2001), Associate Professor of Music and Director of Music Technology at Valley City State University in Valley City, ND, is President-elect of the North Dakota Music Educators Association (NDMEA), and responsible for continuing education at the yearly conference. She actively presents workshops throughout North Dakota on Teaching with the National Standards, emphasizing composition and improvisation. She organizes and hosts a region-wide Composition Competition and Concert, now in its 8th year, featuring new music from students in high school and college, utilizing award-winning composers as mentors. She directed the NDACDA 2009 Treble Honor Choir and will conduct the NDACDA Surround the State in Song children’s choir festival in fall of 2009. She serves on the editorial board of the Journal on Technology in Music Learning (JTML) and is active in the Association for Technology in Music Instruction (ATMI).
Erica Westcott (MA 2009), is the new Coordinator, Secondary & Middle School Programs at Weill Music Institute, Carnegie Hall.


Rebecca Sach (MA 2004), is an Associate Director of Development with the Washington National Opera.

Lindsey Warford (MA 2007), is the Development Assistant at the Lincoln Center Corporate Fund.

Blakely Carroll (BM 2003), has won the audition for the position in the trumpet section of the US Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. While FSU does have several graduates in the top military bands, this audition success is notable because Blakely will be the first female trumpeter to have ever been accepted into the trumpet section of the USAF band.

Mike Evariste (BM 2003), in Musical Theatre, was in the recent Broadway revival of Les Misérables.

Evan T. Jones (BM 2003, MM 2006), baritone, placed first in the 2007 Friends of Eastman Opera voice competition, and was awarded the Lynne Clarke Vocal Prize.

Gregory A. Hilliard, Jr. (BME 2009), is the new choral director at Swift Creek Middle School in Tallahassee, FL. Previously, he served as the first intern for the music ministry at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Orlando, the largest church in the denomination in the state of Florida.

Franklin Gross (BM 2005), was invited to be the Young Artist at the Florida Music Teachers Association state conference in Boca Raton in October 2007. He played a 30 minute program of Bach, Rachmaninoff, and Gross.

John R. Mason, III (BM 2007), serves as Organ Scholar and Assisting Music Director at the Cathedral of St. Peter in St. Petersburg, FL. He is the first scholarship recipient in the Cathedral's new Organ Scholarship Scheme, which provides a unique opportunity to work alongside the Director of Music in creating music at the highest level. John conducts the children's choirs at the Cathedral and teaches music to children.

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Please send us news of your activities and keep your contact information current!

www.music.fsu.edu/Alumni
Alumni Award Winners

Christopher J. Mossey, BM 1990 in Music History, was awarded the Warren D. Allen Faculty Citation for his distinguished achievement in scholarly research in music on February 16, 2009.

Dr. Mossey completed the Ph.D. at Brandeis University in the History and Theory of Music, with a dissertation on the operas of seventeenth-century composer Francesco Cavalli. He published the critical edition of Cavalli’s opera La Doridea with A-R Editions. Currently, he is Associate Vice President for Artistic and Strategic Initiatives at Juilliard, where he serves as liaison with artistic, government, and educational groups; develops major tours for Juilliard ensembles; and manages a variety of planning and budgeting tasks. He has developed the Master of Music degree in historical performance, which will begin in the Fall of 2009.

David Franklin, BA 1962, MM 1963, Ph.D. in Music Education 1968, was awarded the Ella Scoble Opperman Faculty Citation for his distinguished achievement in jazz and jazz criticism on October 24, 2007.

He earned the emeritus status at Winthrop University (South Carolina) as Professor of Music in June 2000.

Merrimon “Mike” Hipps, Jr., BM 1959, was awarded the Ernst von Dohnanyi Excellence in Music Performance award on April 20, 2009. Hipps plays the trumpet. He was presented the award on the evening of a Chamber Winds concert. The program included a trumpet ensemble directed by Dr. Christopher Moore: Suite for Six Trumpets by Anthony Plog.

In 1964, Hipps won a position with the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra in Minnesota where he was a member of the orchestra until 1999. His performance credits also include positions with the Santa Fe Opera, Grand Teton Music Festival, American Ballet Theatre, Virginia Symphony, Minnesota Brass Quintet, Chamber Brass Players, and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, among others.

John Michael Cooper, BM Percussion 1985, MM Musicology 1988, was awarded the Warren D. Allen Faculty Citation for his distinguished achievement in scholarly research in music on October 8, 2007.


Terry Kuhn, Ph.D. in Music Education 1972, was awarded the Faculty Citation for Graduate Alumni for his distinguished achievement in music administration and outstanding leadership on June 18, 2008.

He was serving as Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies, Director of Continuous Improvement, and professor of music at Kent State University when he retired in 2003 - the same year he became co-editor of the NACADA Journal of the National Academic Advising Association.
In Memoriam

1930s

Lorraine Turner Simmons, BM 1934, of Tallahassee, FL, passed away on September 25, 2007 at the age of 93.

Ethel Thomas Browning, BM 1936, of Lake City, FL passed away on September 1, 2007 at the age of 91. She taught music and English at Columbia High School and Lake City Junior High School for more than 35 years. Among her proudest recollections were the names and faces of the hundreds of students she taught.

Evelyn Chauncey Roden, BM 1936, of Atlanta, GA passed away on June 22, 2009 at the age of 94.

Marion C. Persons, BM 1937, of Jacksonville, FL passed away on April 26, 2007 at the age of 92.

Helen F. Taylor Kush, BM 1939, of Jacksonville, FL passed away on February 10, 2007 at the age of 89. After graduation she taught in Quincy, FL, then married and moved to Corpus Christi, TX, where she worked in the English department at King High School after raising her three children.

1940s

Ruby D. Fielding, BM 1940, of Orlando, FL passed away on April 14, 2007 at the age of 88. She worked as a librarian in Dalton, GA and lived a full life by investing in people, working to preserve our natural world, and rejoicing in the arts.

Virginea Dunn Cooper, BM 1942, of Tallahassee, FL passed away on January 7, 2008.

Mary Parker Burnett, BM 1944, of Mount Pleasant, SC passed away on April 11, 2007 at the age of 85. She was a member of the Board of Directors and president of the Columbia Choral Society and the Afternoon Music Club and served as secretary of the Columbia Music Festival Association. She was a founding member of the Cultural Council of Richland and Lexington counties. She was on the executive board and founder of the South Carolina Tricentennial Commission, organizer of “The Liberty Tree” (South Carolina’s first and only outdoor theatre production), as well as an active member of the South Carolina Federation of Music Clubs.

1950s

Freda E. Wetz, BM 1950, of Ocala, FL passed away on September 25, 2007 at the age of 86. Following graduation she was principal of the elementary school at the Florida Industrial School for Girls in Ocala. Later she taught music in the Eustis, FL school system and was choir director and youth director of the First Methodist Church of Mount Dora.

Mary Rosenbush Carroll, BM 1950, MM 1951, of St. Petersburg, FL passed away on April 2, 2007 at the age of 78. She was a piano teacher for more than 30 years.

Wendell D. Waters, MM 1951, of Bartow, FL passed away on January 13, 2009 at the age of 90. In addition to his career as a chemist, Waters played the cello with the Lakeland Symphony Orchestra, and later with the Lakeland Imperial Orchestra for many years. He tuned pianos for local and professional performers at the Lakeland Civic Center, including Elvis Presley and Victor Borge. He was vice president of the Central Florida Technician’s Guild. He served as choir director of the Bartow United Methodist Church and played cello with the Trio Unlimited Group.

Patsy Shinn Padgett, MM 1951, of Metairie, LA, passed away on May 17, 2007 at the age of 77. She taught music in her home and in later years worked with piano students at the University of New Orleans. She was a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, National Federation of Music Clubs, Cadenzas, Metairie Music Club, and was member accompanist to the Melodears, who performed for many years in nursing homes in the New Orleans area.

Robert A. “Bob” Lee, BM 1952, passed away on December 29, 2007. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War adn was in the Army Band. He played the trombone in a dance band; served Pryor Middle School as choral director for seven years; was music supervisor in Okaloosa County from 1970 to 1985; and established the General Education and Development Program at the Correctional School Authority in 1986.
Ellen Snow Frank, BM 1956, of Houston, TX passed away on February 8, 2008 at the age of 73. As a soprano soloist, she performed with symphony orchestras and opera companies in Jacksonville, FL, Alexandria, LA, and New York City. In 1965-66 she gave many recitals throughout India under the sponsorship of the United States Information Agency. She hosted radio and television shows in Florida and Louisiana and helped establish an NPR station at Louisiana State University in Alexandria. After moving to Houston on 2001, she was a soloist and member of the Masterworks Chorus and the choir of Epiphany Episcopal Church. For several years she made school presentations on behalf of the Houston Grand Opera Guild.

In Memoriam

Thomas D. McMullen, BS 1952, of Tallahassee, FL, passed away on February 26, 2008 at the age of 76. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1953-1957, first as an instructor of music theory at the U.S. Air Force School of Music, Lackland Air Force Base, and later as conductor of the Strategic Air Command Chorus and musician in the Strategic Air Command Band, Offutt Air Force Base. His professional life in the Bradenton/Sarasota area included work as band director, teacher of brass instruments, choral conductor, retail music store owner, and publisher of music and musicology manuscripts.

Dan A. Ellis, MM 1953, of Greenville, SC passed away on November 4, 2007 at the age of 77. He retired from Furman University in 1995 after 37 years, receiving the emeritus status. He had been supervisor of instrumental music education. Ellis was founder and conductor of the Lakeside Concerts, a series of concert band performances presented weekly on the Furman campus during the summer months. He earned a number of honors and awards including a Citation of Excellence from the South Carolina Music Educators Association, a Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association, and induction into the South Carolina Music Educators Hall of Fame. He was president of the Greenville Federation of Musicians and Music Director of the Miss South Carolina state pageant. He was a member of the Music Educators National Conference, National Band Association, Phi Beta Mu, and the College Band Directors National Association. In 1995, the marching band’s practice field at Furman was named in Ellis’ honor.

Ann Hays Markett, BM 1955, of St. Petersburg, FL, passed away in February 2008 at the age of 74. She dedicated her life to music as a teacher and later as a music therapist at G. Pierce Wood.

Ellen Snow Frank, BM 1956, MM 1957, of Houston, TX passed away on February 8, 2008 at the age of 73. As a soprano soloist, she performed with symphony orchestras and opera companies in Jacksonville, FL, Alexandria, LA, and New York City. In 1965-66 she gave many recitals throughout India under the sponsorship of the United States Information Agency. She hosted radio and television shows in Florida and Louisiana and helped establish an NPR station at Louisiana State University in Alexandria. After moving to Houston on 2001, she was a soloist and member of the Masterworks Chorus and the choir of Epiphany Episcopal Church. For several years she made school presentations on behalf of the Houston Grand Opera Guild.

T. Joanne Poe, BM 1956, of Oklahoma City, OK, passed away on April 26, 2008 at the age of 75. After graduating from Florida State, she went to Oklahoma University Medical School and graduated as a physical therapist. She established the Physical Therapy Department at Mercy Hospital under Sister Calita, 1959-1962. In April of 1962, she heard Dr. Howard Moffett talk about needing a physical therapist in Korea. In August 1962, she left for Taegu, Korea and worked with leprosy patients and helped many people who lost arms and legs. She served at the Keimyung University at Dong San Hospital, returning to Oklahoma in the fall of 1992. That year she was honored by the Korean government with the Order of Civil Merit Congressional Medal and was selected as a recipient of the National Red Cross Order of Philanthropy for the year.

Dawn Bishop Whitener, BM 1956, of Frederick, MD passed away on February 17, 2008 from complications of Alzheimer’s disease. She was 73. She was a deaconess at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. Her hobbies included playing the piano, tennis, dancing, needlepoint, and knitting.

William J. Catledge, III, BM 1957, of West Palm Beach, FL passed away on August 22, 2008 at the age of 73. He was a member of the Marching Chiefs and had taught band and chorus in South Carolina and Florida.

Virginia Louis McClure, BME 1957, of Jacksonville, FL, passed away on September 1, 2007. She taught general music and chorus in Florida, then took a job in Atlanta where she served as a music consultant covering the southeastern region for the textbook publishing arm of a major publishing company. She conducted workshops and in-service training in Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Washington D.C., Canada, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. In 1983 she returned to the classroom teaching music for grades K-5 and special education students in Gwinnett County, GA. She returned to Jacksonville in 1986 to help care for her mother, and continued her music and education professional associations, serving on the National Ad Hoc committee for the Society for General Music and on the planning committees for several national conferences of Music Educators’ National Conference. She was a long time member of Sigma Alpha Iota, the Florida Music Educator’s Association, the Florida Vocal Association, the Florida Elementary Music Educator’s Association, the Friday Musicale, and the American Choral Director’s Association.

Thomas D. McMullen, BS 1952, of Tallahassee, FL, passed away on February 26, 2008 at the age of 76. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1953-1957, first as an instructor of music theory at the U.S. Air Force School of Music, Lackland Air Force Base, and later as conductor of the Strategic Air Command Chorus and musician in the Strategic Air Command Band, Offutt Air Force Base. His professional life in the Bradenton/Sarasota area included work as band director, teacher of brass instruments, choral conductor, retail music store owner, and publisher of music and musicology manuscripts.

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In Memoriam

Patricia Stephens Cook, BME 1959, Music Education, of Marietta, GA, lost her courageous battle with Parkinson's Disease on April 17, 2009. She was 72. After graduating from Florida State she taught elementary and middle school language arts in Dekalb County, GA, Charlotte, NC, and retired from Cherokee County Schools. She was a long time member of Roswell United Methodist Church where she loved to sing in the choir.

Okle Catherine Jones, BM 1959, of Brandon, FL, passed away on February 11, 2009 at the age of 71. She worked as a church Youth Director in Springhill, LA, taught school in Duval County, FL for 33 years, retired from Jefferson Davis Middle School as a math teacher, and taught choral music at Kirby Smith Junior High School. A private piano teacher, she was a pianist for several churches with her last position held at Wesconnett Baptist Church in Jacksonville, FL.

David T. Kelly, Ph.D. 1962, of Austin, TX passed away on November 16, 2008 at the age of 80. He served in the U.S. Army Field Band during the Korean War. His career later shifted to higher education administration, and he retired as Assistant Director of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board after 25 years of service.

Karen M. Kron, BM 1962, of Fort Myers, FL passed away on October 12, 2008 at the age of 67. She loved music, most importantly Christian music, and over the last 50 years served as a choir director and/or accompanist in numerous churches, most recently in Byrne Memorial Baptist Church, Albany, GA, and Christ Community Church of Fort Myers, FL. She retired in March 2007 from Pepsi Cola of Fort Myers, where she had served in administration for 13 years.

Reverend Leslie Dean Cassels, BM 1963, of Starke, FL passed away on March 2, 2009 at the age of 68. He was band director at Columbia County, Bradford County, and Union County schools and retired at Flagler Palm Coast High School. He became an ordained minister in 1979 and was pastor of Hilbourne Springs Baptist Church for 22 years.


Walter A. Sheridan, BM 1968, of Palatka, FL, passed away on February 6, 2009 at the age of 63. After college, Walt enjoyed a lifelong career with the U.S. Forest Service, spending the majority of his career in Alaska. A man of many talents, Walt's passions included resource management, gun collecting, wood working, fly tying, and fishing.

Charles L. Ellington, Ph.D. 1969, Music Education, a lifelong performer, music educator, and church musician, died June 2, 2009, of complications due to diabetes and heart disease. With a career spanning 33 years in the academic community, he held university positions in Kentucky, Georgia, South Carolina, and Ohio, retiring as a Professor Emeritus. In addition to collegiate teaching, Ellington was also passionate about church music ministry. Beginning at age 21, he directed church music for Baptist, Methodist, and Independent congregations in New Jersey, Kentucky, Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Ohio, and Michigan until 2007. Dr. Ellington always found opportunities throughout his life to perform with various theater, opera, oratorio and community music companies.

1960s

John R. Steenhoven, MME 1961, of West Lafayette, IN, passed away on May 7, 2008 at the age of 71. He taught high school music for two years before pursuing a lifelong career as an insurance and mortgage professional. He loved music and was involved in community and church music functions throughout his life. He also enjoyed the outdoors and went fishing, camping, and hiked the Appalachian Trail.

Kenneth M. Cohen, BM 1962, MME 1972, of Ridgecrest, NC and Orlando, FL, passed away on June 21, 2008 at the age of 69. He taught music in Florida public schools for 39 years and was the church organist and music director for The Church of the Holy Spirit in Apopka, FL. for the past 17 years. He was the past dean of the American Guild of Organists, Central Florida Chapter and a member of the Winter Park Bach Festival Choir.

Lovelace C. Gordon, BA 1962, of Mobile, AL passed away on February 9, 2007 at the age of 69, after a valiant battle with cancer. He received his bachelor of arts degree in music education after serving in the U.S. Navy. he moved to Mobile in 1963 accepting positions as band director of Azalea Road Middle School and as a member of the Mobile Symphony Orchestra, playing the French horn. He also performed with the Mobile Symphony Orchestra, Gulf Coast Symphony, Pensacola Symphony, Meridian Symphony, Mobile Opera, Jackson Symphony, and Florida Symphony. He was owner of M & S Music Store.
In Memoriam

1970s

Ralph Andrews, Ph.D. 1970, passed away on December 30, 2006 after battling cancer and Parkinson’s disease. He was 75. He was a newspaper columnist who wrote theater reviews for the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin in Ontario and its sister publication The Sun of San Bernardino. He enlisted in the Army in 1954 and became a member of the 76th U.S. Army Band. He also studied flute at the Paris France Conservatory of Music while stationed in France. His wife, Frances said that he continued to play his beloved flute and review plays until weeks before his death.

Charles T. Lawson, Ph.D. 1970, of Gary, IN passed away on January 2, 2009 at the age of 72. He taught at numerous schools in Georgia, Texas, Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, and Indiana. He served in many musical activities as adjudicator in school, regional, and state contests and festivals. He was a clinician and guest conductor for band, orchestra, choral, and handbells. He served on many boards and music associations and wrote the GCSC Instrumental Music Curriculum Guide and Instrumental Music Essential Skills Guide. He was a member of the Music Educators National Conference, Indiana Music Educators Association, National Group Piano Association, National Alliance of Arts Education, and Indiana Council for the Arts and Humanities. In addition, he was a member of the Roamin’ Kats and Gas House Gang Band.

Joseph A. Salvatore, Ph.D. 1970, Music Education, died March 3, 2009 at the age of 81. After high school he spent two years in the Army, where he completed U.S. Army Band Training and played solo cornet with the 442nd Army Band at Santa Fe, NM. A musician and teacher all of his life, Dr. Salvatore was a professor in the York College of Pennsylvania music department for 35 years. He played jazz trumpet for bands and combos throughout the country. He was a life member of the American Federation of Musicians, Local 630 of New Kensington and a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Honorary Music Fraternity. In 1971 he performed his own composition Theme and Variations for Trumpet, for the Kentucky Music Teachers Association Composers Workshop. He was an arranger, conductor, and jazz improviser and played his trumpet and piano daily until the onset of his illness.

Carol Y. Williams, BME 1972, of Gainesville, FL, passed away on October 14, 2008 at the age of 61. She was a member of the Bethel Seventh Day Adventist Church where she served as the Clerk of the Church Mission, Choir Director, and Board Member.

Myra S. Aikens, BM 1975, passed away on April 15, 2008 at the age of 54.


Charles E. “Chad” Furman, MM 1977, Ph.D. 1984, of Minneapolis, MN, passed away on December 24, 2007 at the age of 53. He had retired as the Director of Music Therapy at the University of Minnesota.

Ronald Christopher “Chris” Brooks, BM 1978, of Boca Raton, FL passed away on February 14, 2008 at the age of 52. As an accomplished solo guitarist he won awards three years in a row at the National Fingerstyle Contest, Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield Kansas (1988-1990). He made his living playing professionally at Disney World, Sea World, Cypress Gardens and performing at numerous venues around the Orlando area. He promoted the love of music in adults and children alike as a guitar instructor at Rollins College Community School of Music and as a band member for Blues Foundation Education Program.

1980s

John W. Dougherty, Jr, Ph.D. 1985, of Memphis, TN passed away on June 21, 2009 at the age of 73.

Michael S. Sullivan, BME 1986, DM 1998, passed away on June 27, 2006 in Winter Park, FL, after losing a brave battle with cancer. He was 43. An accomplished pianist, he also played the clarinet and violin. Study abroad included a Fulbright Scholarship to study the clarinet in Munich, Germany and Salzburg, Austria. He was an acclaimed soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player, and for the last 14 years, professor of clarinet at Northern Arizona University, where he was named 2005-2006 Teacher-of-the-Year.

The Florida State University College of Music 22 Fall 2009 Alumni Magazine
In Memoriam

2000s

**Damien V. Middleton**, BA 2002, of Ocoee, FL, passed away on December 4, 2006. He was a performer for Walt Disney World.

**Brenda K. Fauls**, Ph.D. 2008, Music Education, passed away on July 27, 2009 at the age of 49. She was an assistant professor of choral music education at Western Illinois University. She was also the director of The Concert Choir and Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and had joined the faculty in Fall 2008. Prior to joining WIU, she taught both high school and middle school in which her choirs received superior ratings. During this time, Fauls served as the North Carolina Music Educators Convention Eastern Division Solo and Small Ensemble Chair and later on the Repertoire Selection Committee. In Florida, she served as the American Choral Directors Association President of The Florida State University College of Music Student Chapter.

**Ruth Posselt Burgin**, former violin professor at Florida State, passed away on February 19, 2007 at the age of 95. A child prodigy, she made her debut in Boston at six, and her Carnegie Hall debut in 1923. After winning the Schubert Memorial Prize in 1929, she was sent to Paris to complete her studies and made her European debut in 1932 with L’Orchestre Symphonique de Paris under the direction of Pierre Monteux. The thirties brought Miss Posselt world renown as recitalist and soloist with the major orchestras and conductors of Europe and America. Before the outbreak of World War II, Miss Posselt made a total of seven extensive European tours in the thirties and forties, appearing in Holland, Spain, England, France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium, Scandanavia, Finland and Poland. In 1934-35 she became the first American–born woman violinist to tour the Soviet Union. In 1937, she was invited by President and Mrs. Roosevelt to play at the White House. Throughout the thirties, forties and fifties Miss Posselt concertized widely in the United States, playing with twenty five different orchestras in all the major cities of the country. In 1940 she married Richard Burgin, concertmaster and associate conductor of the BSO and for the next 25 years she made her home in Boston. A dedicated and enthusiastic exponent of contemporary music, Miss Posselt greatly enriched the literature of her instrument through her introduction and flawless interpretation of 20th century master works, including the violin concerti of Hindemith, Piston, Barber, Hill, Dukelsky, Rivier, Bloch and Khatchaturian, several of which were written expressly for her. In 1963, Miss Posselt moved to Florida with her husband and began a fifteen year association with the Florida State University School of Music, first as Visiting Artist, then as Artist in Residence and member of the Florestan String Quartet and finally as Professor of Violin. Several of her students went on to win positions in major American orchestras. She continued to concertize and play recitals, mainly in Florida and the South throughout the 1970’s. After her retirement from the university and the concert stage, she remained active, both playing and teaching, well into her eighth decade when health problems regrettably put an end to her long and brilliant career in music.
College of Music
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