



UNIVERSITY OF  
EVANSVILLE

# DEPARTMENT *of* MUSIC

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Fall 2015 Vol. 16 Issue 1



## Congratulations to University Choir and Wind Ensemble

The University Choir and Wind Ensemble have received prestigious invitations to perform during the coming academic year. The choir has been selected to perform at the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Central Division Conference in Chicago Illinois, performing at the Palmer House on February 26, 2016. Wind Ensemble has been invited to perform at the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) North Central Conference, performing on February 27, 2016, at Iowa State University. Invitations are made based on rigorous vetting process of applications submitted by universities and schools of music across the country. In acknowledging the honor, director of bands Kenneth Steinsultz states, "These invitations to perform put our ensembles in the national spotlight. Each of these ensembles being selected to perform is a major accomplishment. For both ensembles to be selected to perform in the same year is a rare occurrence. I am very proud of the students, faculty, and staff of the UE music department." While conference attendance at both events is restricted to its members, attendance at the concerts is open to the public at no charge. Please contact the Department of Music for more information about either the CBDNA or ACDA events.

## Music Therapy Program Celebrates 40 Years!

Congratulations to UE's Music Therapy program, which this year marks its 40th anniversary at the University of Evansville. Established in 1975, Cheryl Dileo, PhD, MT-BC was the first program director guiding that initial class of six students. The program grew under the direction of Alan Solomon (1977-2000), and it continues to grow and develop under the current leadership of Mary Ellen Wylie, PhD, MT-BC and Kathleen M. Murphy, PhD, MT-BC. Currently, there are 52 music therapy majors. The number of clinical practicum sites has grown significantly, and students participate in service projects throughout the Evansville area. Both Wylie and Murphy serve as mentors, and both continue to be professionally active in service to the American Music Therapy Association and through scholarship and research.



Participants and judges for the 2014 Gumberts Award (left to right) – Dana Mayes '87, Alex Henderson, Sarah Tuley, Matthew Banks, and Lynn Renne '82.

## Gumberts Award Winners

The Department of Music would like to congratulate the Gumberts Award Competition participants, **Sarah Tuley**, **Alex Henderson**, and **Matthew Banks** for a wonderful concert. Special congratulations go to the Gumberts Award winner, senior BS in music major, Matthew Banks.

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## From the Chair

We celebrated the annual Rite of Spring Gala in April of this year at Tropicana Evansville. Guests enjoyed dinner and performances by our students and small ensembles. It was a delight to have the opportunity to share an evening of music and fellowship among those in attendance.

Of the many highlights from that evening, I distinctly recall appreciating the importance of our friends, and the integral role they play in the life of our department. They share in the journey of our students, watch as they enter the halls of Krannert each year, perform on our stages and in our community, and share in search for knowledge, creativity, and musical enrichment. Our friends come from all walks of life, yet are all drawn to the richness of musical experience, and remind us of the significance of music not only in our students' lives, but in the life of our community and world. We share a belief in the power music has to shape, unite, and communicate some of our highest aspirations – beauty, emotion, and mutual understanding.

The mission of Friends of UE Music includes fostering relationships with our campus and supporting our endeavors. Through FUEM many of our friends engage even more fully in the life of our department's journey. This year FUEM will undergo a transition to a new leadership team, and we are grateful to Jeffrey Berger, John Streetman, and Tad Dickel who will assume the roles of president, vice president, and treasurer. Our department also extends a special thank you to Laurel Vaughn, Bill Knapp, and Glenn Roberts, who leave those posts. Their leadership has shaped the organization for many years, and we are indebted to them for their devotion and service.

My deepest gratitude to all of the friends who share in our department's vision. Many of the educational opportunities that are transformative for our students are made possible through your support. We hope you will continue to walk with us as we work to shape our students' lives, and that you will take pride in the significant role you play in their success.

*Thomas G. Janda*

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## Music Students Share Global Experiences

A number of UE music majors attended international summer festivals during 2015. The UE Trumpet Ensemble attended the Orvieto Musica TrumpetFest in Orvieto, Italy. The ensemble was one of three University ensembles invited to attend. Trumpet ensemble members who attended included Dalton Bosze, Laura Silvestain, and Jacob Steffenhagen. Professor of Trumpet Timothy Zifer led the ensemble and also conducted, performed, and gave master classes at the event.

UE string and clarinet students also took part in the Harlaxton Chamber Music Festival at UE's British campus in Grantham, England. The festival included student and adult amateur participants from across the US. Attendees included Katy VonDerHeide, Taylor Farlin, Shin An (Sarah) Lee, Natsumi Yamada, and Matthew Banks.

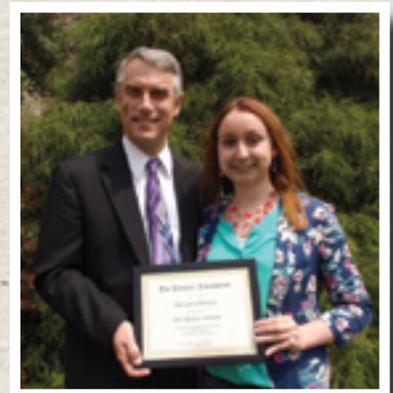
Experiences at both festivals included rehearsals, master classes, concerts, and recitals, and travel to historical sites. Student attendance at both events was partially sponsored through generous gifts from Friends of UE Music.

## Vukovich Concerto Competition Winners

Congratulations to Payton Judd, winner of the Vukovich Concerto Competition. Payton will perform as soloist with the University Symphony Orchestra during the 2015-16 season of concerts.

## Presser Award

The Department of Music is pleased to announce that **Alexandra Billhartz** is this year's winner of the Presser Undergraduate Scholar Award. The award is given annually to a rising senior who is recognized by the Department of Music faculty as showing excellence both academically and as a performer. The Presser Award is made possible through a grant from the Presser Foundation.





## Inaugural UE Jazz Invitational

The UE Jazz Program hosted its first Jazz Band Invitational on April 19. Featured on the program was Signature High School Jazz Band under the direction of alumna Becky Simpkins, Olney Central College Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Suzanne Downes '84, and the UE Jazz Ensemble I under the direction of Timothy Zifer. In addition to each band performing their own short programs, the event concluded by combining all three bands into one giant Big Band, which performed Minnie The Moocher and Deacon Jack's Gospel Shack.

## Chamberpalooza

The Department of Music's second annual Chamberpalooza event featured student ensembles mentored by the Eykamp String Quartet, as well as winners of the chamber music competition. Performances were given by the EPYO String Quartet (Meredith Walling, Elizabeth Shinabarger, Olivia Vincent, and Karin Roberts), and by the University of Evansville's Leederlin Trio (Shin Ae Lee, Taylor Farlin, and Katy Von Der Heide). Violinist Jonathan Paul (EPYO) and violinist Natsumi Yamada (UE), winners of the chamber music competition, each performed a string quartet movement with the ESQ.

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- Friend – General Public* (\$30)
- Friend – Senior Adult* (\$20)

*UE alumni: Please provide year of graduation. You are encouraged to provide updated personal information on the Share Your News form found in this newsletter.*

# ALUMNI UPDATES



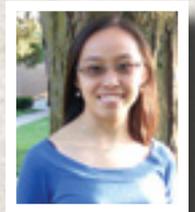
Several recent UE graduates are continuing their studies at the University of Louisville this fall, including performance majors **Jessica Braam '15**, clarinet, and **Sarah Tuley '15**, flute. **Meghan Pund '14** will be attending with a jazz assistantship.

**Alex Henderson '15** is attending Louisiana State University in the fall. He has also been named resident baritone for the young artist program at Opera Louisiane.

Congratulations to alumnus **Glenn Northern '89** on winning the 2015 Indiana Gamma Chapter, Phi Beta Mu Outstanding Bandmaster award.

**Karol Farris '09** moved to North Carolina at the end of May to begin serving as the Campus Minister for UKirk (Presbyterian Campus Ministry) at Western Carolina University.

Congratulations to **Fatima Chan '12** on successfully defending her master's thesis. Fatima earned a master's degree in music therapy from the University of Kansas.



**Melanie Bacaling '13** has accepted a stage management internship with Aspen Opera Theater Center for the 2015 summer season. Melanie will be making her directorial debut for *Gin and Ginger*: A one-act opera by Jeffrey Madry during the summer.

**Meghan Becker '15** has accepted a job at Hebron Elementary School in Evansville, Indiana, teaching K-5 music.

**Kaitlin Emmert '14** has accepted a job in Dubois County, Indiana, working as a music therapist for Sweet Behavior and teaching Suzuki violin with Strings Inc.

**Kaitlyn Gress '12** has been named manager of community programs for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Previously she served as the ASO's ArtsVibe Teen Program coordinator.



Percussionist **Michael Kuhr '06** is an education account manager with MakeMusic Inc. in Boulder, Colorado. Michael works with arts administrators and music teachers on purchasing and using SmartMusic and Finale in their programs. He earned a Master of Music (performance) degree from the University of Arkansas in 2008 and is on track to earn a Master of Business Administration from Colorado State University in Spring 2016.

**Carol Britt, DMA '89** retired in December 2014 from Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, Louisiana, as professor and head of the Department of Music.

**Katie Maurer '07** accepted music therapy positions with the Warrick County School Corporation and Bridges of Indiana. Katie also works with current UE music therapy students as a practicum supervisor.

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## Flute Camp

This June the University of Evansville hosted Froot Fire, a week long flute intensive camp for Evansville youth. Days included master classes, flute choir, chamber music, faculty recitals, and "flooty" electives such as Alexander Technique/Body Mapping, Extended Techniques, Piccolo, and more. Flute faculty members Cara Dailey (University of Evansville), Julie Hobbs (University of Kentucky), Kim Clark (co-executive director, Froot Fire), and local private teachers Mary Tucker '06 and Rita Roth brought their expertise to the campers. Friday's Grand Finale Concert showcased students performing chamber music and flute choir pieces.

## Dennis Malfatti and Students from UE's Choral Program to Perform at Carnegie Hall

Dennis Malfatti has once again been chosen by MidAmerica Productions of New York to guest conduct a concert at Carnegie Hall in New York City, which will take place on June 5, 2016. The performance will include multiple choirs from around the country accompanied by the New England Symphonic Ensemble, one of the east coast's finest professional orchestras. Although choirs from around the country will be part of the performance, students from University of Evansville will serve as the core.



## Shepard Brass Quintet

The Shepard Brass Quintet, comprising UE faculty Tim Zifer, Marc Zyla, Ken Steinsultz and UE alumni Kevin Wilson and Jim Allison, performed a concert at the George T. Dennis Performing Arts Center on the campus of Southeastern Illinois College.



## Fourth Annual UE Brass Day

The UE Brass faculty (Kenneth Steinsultz, Timothy Zifer, Marc Zyla) hosted its fourth annual UE Brass Day on Sunday, January 18, 2015, in the Krannert Hall of Fine Arts and Neu Chapel. Guest artists for the event included Shepard Brass (UE faculty brass quintet), UE3 (UE faculty brass), Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra Brass Section, UE Trumpet Ensemble, and the Bend in the River Brass Band. Brass Day events included concerts, recitals, high school student solo competition, master classes, mass brass ensemble, and exhibits. The fifth annual UE Brass Day will take place on Sunday, January 24, 2016.



## UE Clarinet Workshop

The UE Clarinet Studio hosted a Clarinet Workshop in February. Events included clinics, recitals, a mass clarinet choir (pictured above) conducted by James Goodhue '86, and opportunities for attendees to receive coaching on pieces they were preparing for Indiana State Solo and Ensemble Competition. Guest artists included Wonkak Kim, Kirsten Ahnell, Jonathan Hogan, Ben Werne '10, Susan Caraway, and Alfred Savia. Alumni participants also included Dana Meyer '87 and Stephanie Myers '11. Join us for the 2016 Clarinet and Saxophone Workshop on January 17, 2016.

### Send your information to:

Department of Music  
University of Evansville  
1800 Lincoln Avenue  
Evansville, Indiana 47722  
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## Student Activities and Achievements

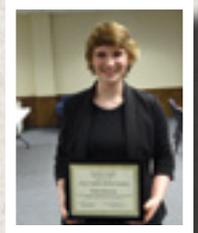
**Payton Judd** (senior, vocal performance) attended the "Summer Nights Music Festival" in Prague from June 7 - July 6, 2015.

**Alexandra Billhartz** (senior, vocal performance) participated in Orpheus National Vocal Competition as a semi-finalist and Kentucky Bach Choir Vocal Competition. She received a scholarship/sponsorship through the Neu Chapel Society for her participation in Songfest 2015 in California.

**Ian Murrell** (senior, vocal performance) received scholarships to attend the Aspen Music Festival School of Opera Theatre during the summer and the Asheville Lyric Opera Young Artist Program. He also won first place in the Junior Men's division at Kentucky NATS.

## Music Service Award

Congratulations to Senior **Laura Silvestain**, recipient of the department's Music Service Award! The award was created to recognize and provide a financial reward for students who have contributed to the music department substantially throughout the year by participating in at least three ensembles each semester and by exhibiting a positive attitude that is inspiring to others.



## FUEM Assistantship Winners

Congratulations to UE student winners of the 2015-16 Friends of UE Music Assistantships. The four winners are **Melanie Baker**, **Justin Morrison**, **Gerni Grayson**, and **Darwi Sandleben**. Thanks to FUEM for their support of these important awards.

## Share your news

Your UE friends and classmates want to hear about you! Please take a moment to forward your personal and professional news. We will be sure to share it with fellow alumni and Friends of UE Music in the next edition of this newsletter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your News \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

## FACULTY NEWS

**Carol Dallinger**, professor of music, recently returned from teaching as guest clinician at the Preucil School of Music Spring Retreat in Iowa City, Iowa. She gave a presentation to the faculty and taught master classes and group lessons to students participating in the retreat.

**Douglas Reed**, University organist emeritus, performed the world premiere of William Bolcom's *Fantasia* for organ and brass quintet by the American Brass Quintet. Reed also taught undergraduate and graduate organ majors at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music in a week-long residency in March.

**Alicia Choi**, **Kirsten Jermé**, **Rose Wollman**, and **Garnet Ungar** played a half solo piano/half chamber recital at Western Kentucky University. Ungar also gave a lecture on piano pedagogy for the Bowling Green Music Teachers Association and a master class for WKU piano students.

**Eric McCluskey**, assistant professor of music, performed several times during the summer with Winter Opera St. Louis, and attended a Lyric Diction Workshop in Nashville, Tennessee, in July. He will be singing "Fiorello" from Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* with the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra in the coming season.

**Kenneth Steinsultz**, associate professor of music and director of bands, performed a solo recital at the Mid-West Regional Tuba and Euphonium Conference, May 16, 2015, at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. In addition to the solo recital at the conference, Steinsultz was an adjudicator for the young artist solo competition and head adjudicator for the euphonium mock audition.

**Erzsébet Gaál Rinne** was one of the judges at the LAMC Recording Competition at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. She has also performed two world premieres in Budapest, Hungary. *Hang-költemények No. 2 for Harp and Trio for Harp, Flute, and Viola* by Katalin Pócs.

**Dennis Malfatti**, associate professor of music and director of choral activities, was recently voted in as president-elect of the Indiana Choral Directors Association (ICDA). ICDA is the state chapter of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), which is a non-profit music organization representing schools, colleges and universities, industry and institutional organizations, houses of worship, and community and professional choirs.

## NEW FACULTY



**Daniel Lin**, recently earned his Doctorate of Musical Arts in piano at Indiana University, and joins UE as visiting instructor of piano. He also studied in Germany for two years, where he earned his master's degree in solo piano at the Cologne Conservatory of Music and Dance. He holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in piano performance and pedagogy from the University of Toronto. He was a finalist in the Pacific International Piano Competition in Vancouver; first place in the national finals of the Canadian Music Competition; third prize in the *Bosendorfer* national concerto competition in Toronto; and finalist in the inaugural Chinese International Competition in New York. He has participated in numerous festivals and summer academies, among them the Bodensee Music Festival in Germany, the International Holland Music Sessions, and the Banff Summer Festival in Canada.



**Jessica Morel** is visiting assistant professor of music and director of orchestral activities at the University of Evansville. She is also the conductor of the Evansville Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. Prior to coming to UE, Morel served as the assistant conductor for the 2015 Hot Springs Music Festival and assistant conductor with the Lewisville Lake Symphony Orchestra (Texas). She has made guest conducting appearances with the Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra (Texas), and the Gwinnett Chamber Symphony Orchestra (Georgia). Her notable achievements include being named a winner of the 2014 International Conductors Workshop and Competition.

Morel holds degrees from Indiana University (BME), the University of Nevada Las Vegas (MM), and she is currently completing her doctorate in orchestral conducting from the University of North Texas. Additional studies have taken her to the Eastern Music Festival, the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, the Atlantic Music Festival, and the International Conductor's Festival in Kiev, Ukraine.



**Emily Britton** serves as consortium instructor of horn at the University of Evansville and principal horn of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in music education from Roberts Wesleyan College, a Master of Music in performance and literature from Eastman School of Music, and a Doctor of Music degree in brass performance from Florida State University. Britton studied with Michelle Stebleton, W. Peter Kurau, and Jennifer Burch.

Before joining the faculty at University of Evansville, Britton was a member of the USAF Heritage of America Band, stationed at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Hampton, Virginia. During her tenure with the Air Force, she performed with the Heritage Brass, the Langley Winds, and the concert band. Britton was a frequent substitute horn player with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. Before entering the military, She appeared regularly with the Tallahassee Symphony, the Albany Symphony, the Mobile Symphony, the Pensacola Symphony and Opera, and Sinfonia Gulf Coast, and served as principal horn of the Northwest Florida Symphony and the Gainesville Chamber Orchestra.

## NEW FACULTY (continued)



Soprano **Andrea Drury**, serves as adjunct voice instructor at the University of Evansville. She served as the director of vocal music for 10 years at North High School in Evansville where the Concert Choir was ranked in the top 10 choirs at the ISSMA Organization competition nine of her 10 years. She is also the conductor of the Evansville Philharmonic Chorus as well as Trinity United Methodist Church Choir. In 2014, Drury and her husband were awarded the Artist Award presented by the Arts Council of Southwest Indiana. Drury has been nominated for the *Evansville Courier & Press* Teacher of the Year award two times. Before settling in Evansville, Drury sang with orchestras and opera companies across the United States. In recent years, Drury has performed as soloist with the Evansville Philharmonic Chorus and Orchestra as well as the Evansville Bach Singers. She earned her Bachelor of Music Education from Baylor University in 1996 and her Master of Music in vocal performance from the Ohio State University in 2000.



Soprano **Nicole Casteel**, serves as adjunct instructor of voice. Her credits include performances in both musical theatre and opera. Some favorite credits include Mary Poppins in *Mary Poppins*, Cunegonde in *Candide*, Musetta in *La bohème*, Nella in *Gianni Schicchi*, Lily in *The Secret Garden*, and Kathy in *The Last Five Years*. Her concert and solo repertoire include works by Mozart, Handel, Stravinsky, Rossini, and Haydn, among others.

In the Louisville area, Casteel can be seen in collaboration with the Kentucky Opera as well as the Louisville Master Chorale. In 2012, she was selected as a young artist at the Taos Opera Institute, performing in both concert and cabaret. She has also studied classical belting and musical theatre at the International Performing Arts Institute of Bavaria in conjunction with the Joop van den Ende Academy, the premier musical theatre conservatory in Hamburg, Germany. Casteel has been among the top place winners in the NATS competition both in musical theatre and classical categories. She earned her master's degree in vocal performance at Texas Tech University in 2012 and also holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Murray State University.



Violinist **Robert Anemone** is the new concertmaster of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra and violinist with the Eykamp String Quartet. First prize winner of the 2015 Hudson Valley Philharmonic Strings Competition, the 2013-14 New England Conservatory Violin Competition, and the 2007 Concord Young Artist Competition, he has appeared as a soloist with the Concord Symphony, New England Conservatory Philharmonia, and Williamsburg Youth Orchestra as well as in recitals in the United States and Europe. Robert was previously principal second violinist of the Portland

Symphony Orchestra, where he also served as acting concertmaster on multiple occasions. A graduate of the New England Conservatory, Robert studied with James Buswell. He has received additional training at the Taos School of Music, the Aspen Music Festival and School, and the Heifetz Institute, where he worked with the Borromeo, Brentano, Miro, and Shanghai String Quartets.



### Senior Send-Off

Members of the 2015 graduating class attended this year's Senior Send-Off.



### Van Cliburn Winner Performs at UE

Vadym Kholodenko (pictured with UE piano majors and faculty), current Gold Medal winner of the Van Cliburn Piano Competition, performed and spoke to students and members of the Evansville community in February. His visit was made possible in part by the Under the Beams series in New Harmony, Indiana.





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**UE Summer Music Camp**

In June, UE's Department of Music hosted the fifth annual Wesley Shepard Summer Music Camp. This year's camp included piano and musical theatre offerings as well as band and orchestra. Over 150 students worked with UE faculty talented area music educators to hone their musical skills through sectionals, rehearsals, music classes, and concerts.



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