

Da Capo

2019–2020 Alumni Magazine



They never
stopped teaching!



UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina

School of Music

IN THIS ISSUE

2019–2020

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

About the cover

UofSC String Project graduate assistant Rose DaGraca is wearing a mask made by one of our String Project families during the shut-down. String Project teachers (mostly undergraduates) produced videos for a YouTube channel and met with their private students via Zoom.

Tayloe Harding
Dean, Executive Editor

Andrew Gowan
Interim Dean, 2019–2020

Laveta Gibson
Executive Assistant to the Dean

Ellen Woodoff
Writer/Editor/Designer

Polly Laffitte
School of Music
Director of Development

3	Message from the Dean
4	Alumna MK Lawson
6	Mandatory Distancing for virtual wind ensemble
8	Congaree New Horizons' Silent Rehearsals
10	String Project's quick, successful transition
12	Alumna Blair Francis
12	Alumnus John Culvahouse
14	Christian Folk advocates for diverse composers
15	Alexandria Thompson Fulbright Awardee
16	Scott Price: Carolina Distinguished Professor
17	Gail Barnes: SEC Faculty Achievement Award
18	Reginald Bain: Garnet Apple
19	Wendy Valerio: Mungo Teaching Award
20	Charles Fugo: Teacher Hall of Fame
21	Caroline Scobee at Washington National Opera
22	<i>Under Strange Stars</i>
24	Vaz Family Scholarship
26	Christopher Berg on musical expression
28	Alumnus Clay Mettens
29	<i>Earth Song</i> - a gift for everyone
30	Carolina Bands - 100 years
31	New faculty members
32	SPARK'S Creativity Awards
34	Making the best of a pandemic
37	Student news
41	Alumni news
46	Faculty news
47	Our Donors



A message from Dean Tayloe Harding

Our DaCapo cover photo tells it all. Spring 2020 was the most unusual and trying semester in our history, for students, faculty, and you, our dear alumni and friends. We learned and made music in every way we could given the impersonal circumstances, inventing new ways to affect all of this *on the fly*.

So, as spring turned into summer, and we had to begin to prepare for an unprecedented fall, we formed a body to help us project how to make a School of Music function and advance during (and beyond) this pandemic environment. The Post-Covid Task Force (TF) was empaneled this summer, made up of music

faculty and staff volunteers, in an effort to both get a bearing on how to deal with the impacts of COVID-19, and then perhaps how to move, conceptually, beyond the limitations presented by the global public health crisis to a place where the power of what we conceive and produce in the School of Music might provide even greater relevance and import to citizens than it typically does. A testament to their work, much of what is on [this page](#), was developed by the task force during the summer when we met virtually every week. I wish to thank them for their devoted work, work in which we are all engaging now every day with our students.

The Task Force discussed ways we might, as a School, engage what we can sustain from our regular academic year activity of music-making for the purposes of both music learning and listener enrichment in new ways to reach those who need us. Further, as societal conflicts and disruptions -- some new, some ancient and troubling -- emerged through the summer months, the thoughts and work of the TF were influenced naturally and those thoughts coalesced into a framework for the possibility of music faculty and student engagement for the fall and perhaps for the whole academic year. This framework is comprised of four "dimensions" that some of our on-going productions and presentations of student and faculty musical work can articulate, and that can serve as inspiration to us to imagine new work, or perhaps even to re-think some of our current efforts. These four dimensions form a distinctive initiative we are calling ***Bridging Our Distances***:

1. Musical events designed in some way(s) to celebrate heroes, unsung, or overlooked members of our community who deserve our attention during these catastrophic times.
2. Musical events that embrace music beyond the standard canon to those that may be considered underrepresented by our typical audience, perhaps allowing us to both provide more enrichment to our existing audience while expanding it to include other persons. Much of the discussion at the TF associated with this dimension had to do with American musics not often included in our programming. But as was pointed out beautifully by faculty members in the comments of the survey distributed regarding the dimensions and TF work, the magnitude of this dimension should be much broader than just American music and pay attention to musics from everywhere that our typical audiences do not hear or experience very often, if at all.
3. Musical events that can help to re-knit School of Music, campus, and broader community fabrics frayed by months of quarantine and isolation from one another. The outcomes of this separation from each other range from the sad to the profoundly tragic, as we have all witnessed in recent weeks and days -- we simply **MUST** use our art and our work to make a difference here -- a difference our stakeholders and our community desperately need us, and count on us, to make.
4. Musical events that can help us imagine and define our future. As the future of our nation will be largely dictated by our evolving American demography as well as by a greater dependence on digital technology to communicate and express ourselves, what can we invent today that will serve us and our students tomorrow? Our core value to cultivate diverse skilled musicians is at the heart of this dimension -- events designed to manifest the dimension can serve as beacons for this value. What unique skills or experiences do our faculty or students have that can be spotlighted in public events through the lens of this dimension in ways we could not have conceived before?

Launching the ***Bridging Our Distances*** initiative is one of the foci of the School's 2020-21 effort to reflect our role as campus leader and as an aspirant for hope where the School can realize its great potential to inform, entertain, enrich, and inspire through the power of music and music-making. In the coming weeks and months, look for more information about how and when we will realize the events of ***Bridging Our Distances***... Until then, I bid you....

Forever to Thee

Alumna MK Lawson Persisted



Alumna Mary Katherine (MK) Lawson directed and choreographed the New York premiere of the inspiring new musical based on the book by Chelsea Clinton, “She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World.” SHE PERSISTED won the Off-Broadway Alliance Award for Best Family Show this year. Covid-19 closed the show early, but here is a short clip from the [FINALE](#).

“On Sunday I was sitting in a theatre pinching myself as the entire Clinton family watched our production of *SHE PERSISTED*. By that Saturday our production announced it was prematurely closing, along with the rest of New York theatre. And just like that, mine and so many of my colleagues’ livelihoods were shuttered for the foreseeable future. I am optimistic that this time of shut down will lead to a great shift in thinking about how we make theatre, and a commitment to making theatre an actively anti-racist institution. We have much work to do, but as I see it, we’ve been gifted the time to do it. To re-evaluate. To re-educate ourselves as white artists. The process of making *SHE PERSISTED* was the first time I – as a white theatre maker – was not in the racial majority. It was exhilarating and unacceptable all at the same time. I, for one, have stopped even considering that we will ever return to normal ... and I think I’d prefer that we didn’t. I want us to emerge from this with a deeper compassion for and responsibility to one another and all living things. I want for this moment to serve as a bridge to a more unified collective consciousness that values above all else our capacity to see past ourselves, to empathize. Gloria Steinem calls empathy ‘the most radical tool we have.’ I think it’s true, and I think storytelling is a critical part of that.”

continued...

“An exuberant, time-traveling history lesson that instills confidence! The optimistic takeaway for the youngest generation is clear: Persevere. You’ve got this.” — Laura Collins-Hughes, The New York Times



“With so many kids’ shows based on fairy tales, it’s a treat to have one inspired by feminist tales.” – CAREY PURCELL, TDF Stages

“Inspirational! A call to action for families raising young feminists, *She Persisted* celebrates real-life sheroes while demonstrating that everyone has the power to make a difference.” – RAVEN SNOOK, TIME OUT NEW YORK

Script & Lyrics by Adam Tobin
Music by Deborah Wicks La Puma
Adapted from the book written by Chelsea Clinton & Illustrated by Alexandra Boiger
Published by Philomel Books
Music supervision by Macy Schmidt
Directed & Choreographed by MK Lawson

Ryan Williams composes relevent new work

Mandatory Social Distancing for virtual wind ensemble



DMA composition student Ryan Williams wanted to give band kids a chance to perform during the pandemic. School of Music alumnus Jay Sconyers wanted to be sure his band students at McNeese State University in Louisiana had the opportunity to perform together for the semester. Therein lay a challenge during COVID-19. Sconyers called Williams in March to ask if a virtual wind ensemble piece would be possible.

“Jay and I hoped to get eight or nine universities to join in,” said Williams. “In the end, it was 27 universities and high schools from 17 states plus Trinidad. We expected to end up with 150–200 students participating; once all was said and done, I received more than 800 videos from 757 students.” Cormac Cannon and Jay Jacobs of UofSC bands, chose to join in and be a part of the project. “To have my own Gamecock classmates involved was a real thrill for me,” said Williams.

Williams composed the piece, set up the back-end systems to support the video submissions, and edited and compiled the project. Once the submissions began coming in, he began to grasp the size and scope of the project. “It was, beyond a doubt, the biggest thing I’ve ever done,” he said.

“Seeing the final product come together: all the students, from around the country,

continued...



performing the piece together, as an ensemble, from each of their 750 separate living rooms, bedrooms, basements, garages, practice rooms, etc., was really an amazing experience. It told me a lot about the resiliency of ‘band kids’– from current students through those of us who are teaching, writing, conducting and so on. Despite all the challenges, they all still pulled together to learn their parts, to participate in something, and to be a part of a final product. No matter age or profession, we’re still band kids. So many experiences have been taken away from students and teachers this Spring. The things we are used to achieving, accomplishing and doing haven’t happened. To have been able to provide the students with a chance to still get one thing before summer was an honor for me. But, despite all of that, I’m most looking forward to seeing ensembles get back together and to see live music happen from a group of students working together, in the same place at the same time.”

[Mandatory Social Distancing for virtual wind ensemble](#)

[Ryan J Williams website](#)

The Congaree New Horizons' Silent Rehearsals



During the COVID-19 pandemic, instructors and members in the Congaree New Horizons Band (CNHB) program were longing to stay connected and continue making music, even while staying distanced from each other. What seemed like a futile attempt to maintain the active and diverse program turned out to be a celebration of ingenuity, embracing of challenges, and people making music. Jazz combos, recorder consorts, concert bands and big bands have been meeting since April, and technology has been the bridge to reconnecting.

Jazz combo director **John Valerio** decided to create rhythm section tracks in GarageBand and send those to his members who then recorded and edited their performances before sending them back for mastering. During weekly Zoom meetings, Valerio mixes performances into a composite performance and members discuss nuance and how to improve the performance. Long-time combo member, **Billy DuBose**, expresses the joy of learning, saying, “There is also the excitement – real joy – of learning new skills; how to mix audio sources, all about MIDI, and the software, hardware, the ‘brainware’ that goes into making a quality recording.”

Combo members, **Peter Miller** and **George Park**, discussed the love for music making and how the group experiences have helped fill a void. Miller says, “The

“...We do what we do for the love of it.”

word ‘amateur’ comes from the Latin, *amatus*, meaning to love. We do what we do for the love of it.” Park captures a common sentiment, saying, “The magic that occurs during a live performance is lost in our virtual world, but perhaps we will appreciate live collaboration more and be better musicians once we are able to play that way again.” [Listen to the performances.](#)

Jean Hein, a classically trained clarinetist and early music expert, serves as the recorder consort teacher for CNHB. Throughout the pandemic, she taught private recorder lessons along with Zoom to conduct silent rehearsals and duet playing. Hein’s recorder instruction attracted new consort members, **Susan Wyatt** from Blacksburg, Virginia, and **Cate Miller**, from Austin, Texas.

Having members from other parts of the country is common in the concert and jazz bands. CNHB program director, **Amanda Schlegel**, coordinated with the New Horizons International Music Association, to invite New Horizons members across North America to participate in the concert and jazz band silent rehearsals held in Zoom.

Held weekly and conducted using Zoom web conferencing and SmartMusic, the concert and jazz band silent rehearsals have attracted participation from all over North America. In particular, members of the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) New Horizons Band from Aiken, SC, and the Tucson New Horizons Band from Tucson, AZ, are active members in these rehearsals. **Lauren Meccia**, director the CNHB Crescent Moon Jazz Band and the CSRA program, continues her work with the jazz band, and the participating members are amazed at her innovative and sequenced improvisation pedagogy.

A frequent participant in these silent concert band rehearsals is **Roy Ernst**, professor Emeritus from the Eastman School of Music and founder of New Horizons International Music Association. His praise of the silent rehearsals has greatly increased the international participation of other New Horizons members and directors. SmartMusic also highlighted the silent rehearsals in a [recent blog post](#) that includes a link to Schlegel’s demonstration of an online rehearsal.

The New Horizons Music Program provides entry points to music making for adults, including those with no musical experience at all as well as those who were active in school music programs but have been inactive for a long time. To learn more about how to attend these silent online rehearsals, visit the [Congaree New Horizons Band Facebook page](#) or email [Amanda Schlegel](#). All CNHB instruction will be online in Fall 2020 and membership is open to any interested music lover. For more details, see [Congaree New Horizons Band Program](#).

String Project quickly and successfully transitioned to online



Teaching children in a virtual format presents its own set of challenges for the UofSC String Project student teachers. Social distancing makes any instruction challenging but moving from teaching in three dimensions to two dimensions is particularly difficult.

String Project teachers responded to the challenge. In less than a week, they were teaching lessons via internet platforms like Zoom, FaceTime and Skype and having weekly meetings in addition to teaching lessons. Twenty-four teachers created more than 80 videos for their group students – approximately 270 students participated. The end of the semester was marked with virtual concerts.



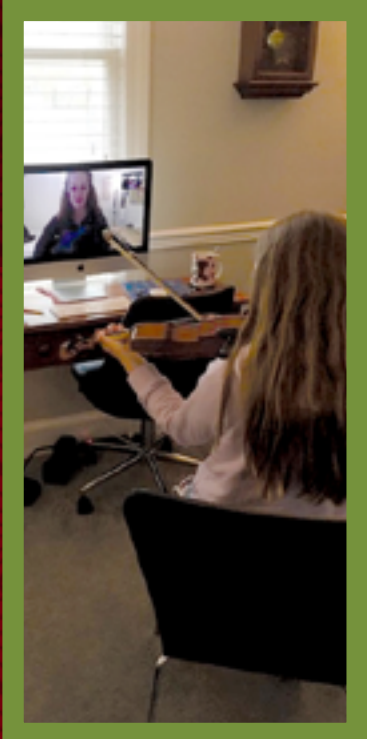
Gail Barnes, professor of music education and director of UofSC's String Project said, "String Project graduate assistants **Andrea Vogt**, **Emma Brown** and **Matt Wyatt** were amazing leaders during this time. Rose DaGraca figured out how to record violin and cello to demonstrate two parts together! I think all the teachers who have contributed are fantastic, of course." Barnes is overwhelmed by everyone's efforts. "They rose to a challenge and surpassed all expectations," she said.

Internet lessons required a lot of parent involvement at the beginning but students became quickly independent in most cases. The Shavo family appreciates the teachers of the String Project so much they made masks from fabric with cellos on them for any String Project teacher who wanted them.

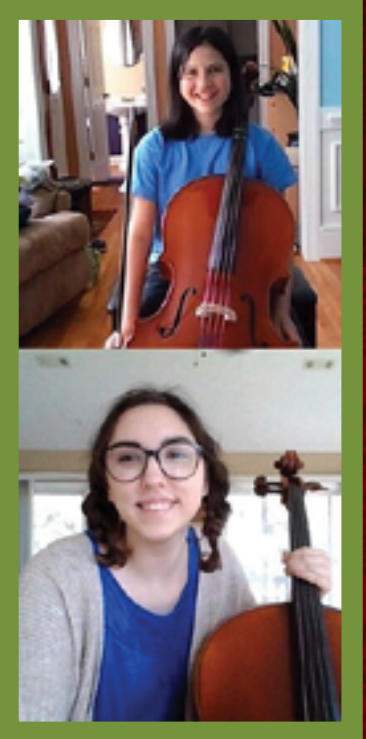
See how we're teaching the Beginner Class on YouTube here!

continued...

"Through it all, you have not stopped teaching"



Emma Brown teaching Lydia Ernst



Courtney Kane teaching Jane Zheltov



Andrea Vogt, 2nd year master's student and assistant director of the String Project

Carolyn Hunter Rogers, String Project parent writes, "Strings Project you ROCK!!!! Through it all, you have not stopped teaching. Best teachers ever!!!!"

"It's really hard to overstate the benefit you've given to our family," said Kara Shavo. "Now, during the quarantine, our house is filled with music. Ada and Lynda are playing violin and viola. Maggie has been focusing on guitar, but she got her start in String Project, so I credit you for her enthusiasm for music, even though she's no longer in the program."

"We purchased a new TV for this effort so the kids could watch their class more easily and clearly. I think we really just got the hang of it. I think we will be tuning in and practicing more often than before. There is something quite novel about going to the TV to do class. It's like we have you in our living rooms now. Definitely not the same as class but the best under the circumstances. I think the kids appreciate you all the more," said Tracy O'Halloran.

Teacher Emma Brown wrote, "So many of my students in Capriccio and the Adult Continuing class were very receptive to the materials I posted in Google Classroom and gave great feedback about what they were working on! I also had a lovely Zoom meeting with several members of my adult class on what would have been our last class where we just had a chance to catch up and talk about how everyone was doing. Several of them had tried rehearsing over Zoom already (which didn't work) but they've made plans to meet up and practice together when they're safely able to! We also had a final meeting to congratulate our four grads: **Drew Preston** and **Rose DaGraca** (BM), **Matt Wyatt** (MME) and **Emma Brown** (Masters in Pedagogy)."

Alumna Spotlight BLAIR FRANCIS



“Music can make you feel an entire palette of emotions – a sense of joy when you are down, a sense of connection with divinity, a sense of hope, love and empathy. Being a UofSC alumna, I’ve become connected to the idea that musicians have a responsibility to cultivate and share these feelings with audiences through music that has been gifted to us by incredible composers.”

2012, BM, performance

Blair Francis, the recipient of numerous awards, was appointed assistant principal/second flute of the Naples Philharmonic in 2018 and previously performed with the New York Philharmonic as acting section flute for two seasons, working with renowned soloists and conductors. Francis has held the Edgar and Patricia Harris Flute II Chair of the Austin Symphony Orchestra and performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, New World Symphony, Oregon Symphony Orchestra and Augusta Symphony Orchestra. She has been an instrumental fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center, Music Academy of the West, Sarasota Music Festival, Brevard Music Center and Eastern Music Festival.

After receiving a BM from UofSC, she went on to earn a Master of Music degree from University of Texas Austin and a Professional Studies Certificate in Orchestral Performance from the Manhattan School of Music.

[Blair Francis website](#)

Alumnus Spotlight JOHN CULVAHOUSE



John N. Culvahouse was inducted into the The East Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association Hall Of Fame, the highest honor that association gives to the most successful music educators in East Tennessee.

1998, DMA, conducting

Culvahouse was appointed conductor of the Tennessee Wind Symphony in April 2018 and continues as director of the Tennessee ensemble. In 2014, he was elected to the membership of the American Bandmasters Association – a high honor. In his continued efforts to support the best in music education, he serves as immediate past vice-president and secretary for the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

After receiving both his Bachelors and Masters degrees from University of Tennessee, he completed the doctor of musical arts in conducting from the UofSC.

His teaching career began with 17 years in South Carolina and Tennessee public schools until he was appointed to a faculty position at the University of Georgia. Dr. Culvahouse retired in 2014 as a Tenured Professor of Music from the University System of Georgia after 16 years at the University of Georgia and 8 years at Kennesaw State University.

Culvahouse has served as a conductor, adjudicator and clinician in several states, Canada and Western Europe. He conducted NBA bands at the 1980, 1988 and 1994 conventions.

Christian Folk advocates for more performances of works by diverse composers



Meant to advocate for more performances of works by diverse composers in the tuba/euphonium field, Christian Folk's presentation features in-depth overviews of works written by influential diverse composers.

"This work has helped me realize how important it is to be outspoken about diversity and inclusion, as modeled by my influential mentors and teachers at UofSC. Thus, I would like to use this statement as a platform and a call to action in an effort to emphasize the importance of lifting up marginalized and oppressed voices."

He continues, "To my peers and colleagues, we must do more. It is essential to research, perform, and program music by underrepresented composers in order to amplify voices that have been intentionally silenced by the canon. There are innumerable resources available, including articles, texts, videos, and other materials that can aid in your advocacy efforts, [here](#)."

Folk's proposal was awarded from both the Southeast Regional Tuba/Euphonium Conference and the Northeast Regional Tuba/Euphonium Conference. Folks' lecture/presentation is an overview of music for tuba and euphonium, including solo and chamber pieces, written by women composers and composers of color. It also features more in-depth overviews of larger works written by influential diverse composers. 2021, MME

Recent grad Alexandria Thompson named Fulbright Awardee



Alexandria Thompson's goal is to become a music educator with a master's in music therapy. She was awarded an English teaching assistantship through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program to travel to Germany to complete an English teaching assistantship.

"Applying for Fulbright was an eye-opening opportunity for me, and I encourage any student who has an eye for travel as well as teaching or research to apply," said Thompson.

"Fulbright showed me the many ways my unique experiences can make an impact on those from different communities than me. I am grateful to have been offered this opportunity, and I do not take the nomination lightly!"

Thompson, the recipient of several music and academic scholarships, is the president and co-founder of Black Honors Caucus for the South Carolina Honors College and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

She graduated in spring 2020 from the School of Music and the South Carolina Honors College with a degree in music education focusing on choral and a vocal performance certificate.

Fulbright applicants and others seeking nationally competitive fellowships are assisted by National Fellowships and Scholar Programs.

For more information about the Fulbright U.S. Student Program or other national competitions, contact National Fellowships and Scholar Programs at 777-0958, or [visit online](#).

Scott Price is named Carolina Distinguished Professor of Music

Gail Barnes honored with SEC Faculty Achievement Award



“My students with autism have taught me four things that guide my teaching and research: that they are gifted teachers and have enormously important things to show us about what is effective or lacking in our teaching, to be continuously humbled in the presence of their unique gifts, that I am here to serve, and to allow myself to be challenged about everything I think and do each moment of the day.”

Scott Price is the recipient of the Carolina Distinguished Professorship – one of the highest honors awarded by the university. Price strongly advocates for inclusive pedagogy in the piano teaching profession and for further study into how students with autism can reshape the effectiveness of our teaching for all students.

“Under his guidance and efforts, the Piano Pedagogy masters and doctoral programs have emerged as the most prestigious in the country. Dr. Price is able to provide world-class instruction and mentorship to graduate students from all over the world and models superior teaching and solo piano performance skills. He has a distinctive ability to assist students of every kind and at every level to achieve their potential,” said Dean Harding.

Dr. Price, named a Foundation Fellow by the Music Teachers National Association, received the Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award from The Music Teachers National Association, is a recipient of the Southeastern Conference Faculty Achievement Award for UofSC, and was awarded the Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy Outstanding Service Recognition Award. He is founder and director of the Carolina LifeSong Initiative, a program that provides music experiences and piano lessons for students with autism and other special needs, and provides teacher training for piano teachers.



“My students motivate me by their desire to be useful and learn all they can to serve their future music students. I motivate my students by treating them as future music educators from the first day we work together.”

Gail Barnes, professor of music education, was named winner of the 2020 SEC Faculty Achievement Award for the University of South Carolina.. “Dr. Barnes represents the finest in teaching at the undergraduate and graduate level of music education,” said Dean Harding.

The SEC Faculty Achievement Award recognizes faculty from SEC universities with outstanding records in teaching and scholarship. Winners, one from each of the SEC’s 14 member universities, receive an honorarium and become their university’s nominee for the SEC Professor of the Year Award.

She has served for more than 20 years as director of the nationally recognized UofSC String Project that provides music instruction and community outreach opportunities while becoming a model for teacher education for universities around the nation. She remains an active researcher with interests in music education access for under-served youth.

A career educator, Barnes teaches courses in stringed instrument methods, orchestra literature and sociology of music education and has conducted all-state orchestras and presented teaching clinics around the US. She is coauthor of *Measures of Success for String Orchestra*, a method book for young musicians. Dr. Barnes played professionally in the Virginia Symphony and Virginia Opera, and she continues to play viola with the South Carolina Philharmonic.

[Read last year’s story](#) on the impact of Dr. Barnes and the String Project.

Reginald Bain honored with the Garnet Apple Award for “The Sound of Genetics”



The Garnet Apple Award honors exceptional faculty who demonstrate a commitment to best teaching practices and have a record of developing innovative strategies to enhance learning.

Reginald Bain, professor of composition and theory, and professor of biology **Jeff Dudycha** teamed up for an inventive class to turn gene mutations into sound. The course is part of a National Science Foundation-funded research project for the pair who were awarded the 2019 Garnet Apple Award.

Bain says, “We let the scientists be scientists and the composers would come in and map the sound. There was a lot of training and teaching at disparate levels.”

For the class, eight undergraduate biology majors teamed up with six composition students – both graduate and undergraduate – to complete four projects using computer-generated music to represent spontaneous genetic mutations.

“It was the best teaching experience I ever had,” says Bain, who has degrees in mathematics and computer science as well as music composition. “It exceeded all our expectations.”

Bain has experience in musically mapping large data sets and other numerical information. In this case, the process – called sonification – can help students better understand the consequences of spontaneous mutation by hearing it happen.

Wendy Valerio wins Michael J. Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Award



“I am humbled and honored to receive this award. It is such a joy to work with, and especially make music with, the amazing undergraduate students at the University of South Carolina.”

Wendy Valerio believes that music is a birthright of each human being, and everyone on Earth has music learning potential.

As an early childhood/elementary music specialist, Valerio researches human music development and learning through social music interaction. She has observed that children of all ages can learn music and seem to enjoy learning music by engaging musically with others and being nurtured through interactive music play.

Dr. Valerio, professor of music education, is guided by the philosophy of “modeling and supporting professionalism, scholarship, and playful active music-making practices.”

Andrew Gowan, interim dean of the School of Music noted, “Dr. Valerio is outstanding as a teacher, as a researcher, and as a mentor. She has contributed so much to the School of Music since coming to us in 1995.”

Charles Fugo is recognized as one of North America's most committed and passionate piano educators



Professor of piano **Charles Fugo** positively impacts countless students. He has been inducted into Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame – a prestigious designation recognizing North America's most committed and passionate piano educators.

“Professor Fugo is a great champion of student accomplishment and of high expectations for musical growth and achievement. He demonstrates this allegiance not only in the attainments of his current, former and future students, but also in the commitment of his own time to their pursuits and the high value he places on modeling outstanding music performance in his own work for them to observe and emulate,” said Dean Harding.

Ron Losby, president and CEO of Steinway & Sons, said “These talented educators foster a love of learning and practice in young people that ultimately creates the fabric of tomorrow's music and culture. We are very happy to create the new Hall of Fame and to celebrate the special men and women who populate it.”

Dr. Fugo, the recipient of the 2008 Cantey Outstanding Faculty Award given by the School of Music, was also named a Foundation Fellow by the Music Teachers National Association in 2017.

Caroline Scobee interns at the Washington National Opera



“Working at the Kennedy Center [last summer] was one of the most rewarding and eye-opening experiences I have ever been a part of.”

“I worked specifically in the Washington National Opera's Education Department,” said Caroline Scobee. “The largest task I was a part of was executing the Washington National Opera Summer Institute, which is a classical training program for high school students. I got to work alongside incredible performers including Denyce Graces and Harolyn Blackwell. The best experience of the summer was attending a performance at the Capitol Building. It was thrilling to be a part of presenting the arts to Senators and demonstrating the importance of the arts to our nation. I am so thankful for the experience and the way I got to utilize my music degree in an alternative way!” 2020, BM, music education and performance certificate



What powers *Under Strange Stars*?



Left to right: **Sam Sherer**, MM student, **William Newton**, BM performance 2020, **Ian Jones**, senior composition student, **Prof. John Fitz Rogers**, **Prof. Scott Herring**, **Peter Grubisich**, MM 2020, **Ben Haimann**, MM 2020, **Zack Kusztos**, junior performance, **Christopher Amick**, BM performance 2019

A few years ago, **Scott Herring**, professor of percussion, commissioned **John Fitz Rogers**, professor of composition, to compose a piece for his ensemble, Sympatico Percussion Group.

Herring said, “*Under Strange Stars* occupies a distinct place in our repertoire, and I can honestly say there are no other works like John’s. His combination of long silences, intense groove, and interplay between the parts make *Under Strange Stars* the masterpiece that it is. Even though I knew this before, John has demonstrated that he is a master orchestrator. He takes the opportunity to combine sounds of multiple percussion instruments to create ‘new instruments’ with their own unique sound.”

“Scott is one of those performers that composers dream about writing for: an incredibly gifted artist who’s always eager to collaborate and experiment,” said Rogers. Although Sympatico premiered *Under Strange Stars* on the Southern Exposure series, Herring also wanted the student percussion ensemble to both perform and make a video of the piece.

“Making the video was one of the best experiences I’ve had as a composer,” said Rogers. “The students’ performance was just incredible. And Scott, his students, and the whole team who recorded, produced and edited the video were utterly committed to the project from start to finish. Everything was truly first-rate, and I couldn’t be happier with the final result.”



Scott Herring
Professor of Percussion



John Fitz Rogers
Professor of Composition

William Newton said, “The piece is amazing, with incredibly vibrant and energetic moments, as well as a strong sense of groove and dance.”

The most enjoyable part of the piece for Newton was connecting with his peers. “Each part is completely intertwined with and dependent on each other, requiring the ensemble to have a strong sense of connection. This is my favorite part of playing music in general and the intricacies of *Under Strange Stars* certainly highlighted that aspect of performing for me,” he said.

After the ensemble made the premiere recording, Newton reflected, “This is pretty rare as a student, but what is even rarer is having the opportunity to consistently interact with such an esteemed composer, throughout the process of learning, performing, and recording this piece.”

He went on to say “Dr. Fitz Rogers is an incredible musician, with an endless fountain of knowledge, which inspired us in many ways throughout our journey with *Under Strange Stars*. I am incredibly grateful to Dr. Fitz Rogers, Dr. Scott Herring, the recording crew, and my fellow ensemble members. I am glad that my final official event with the percussion ensemble was recording this piece, and I am so proud of the final product. I’m looking forward to watching this piece get performed all over the world and becoming a staple in the percussion ensemble repertoire.”

[Watch it on YouTube.](#)



William Newton
2020, BM, percussion performance

New Vaz Family Scholarship for Marching Band



Audra Vaz is a self-professed Band Mom. Each of her children, now Carolina alumni, played in the UofSC Bands and for the Vaz family, **Audra, Derrick, Brenna and Johann**, the School of Music was part of the family.

Derrick is a 2020 Journalism and Mass Communications graduate and a Music Performance Certificate recipient in Jazz Bass. He played alto sax in the Marching Band, sax and bass in the basketball pep band, and double bass and guitar in the Left Bank Jazz Band. He is now attending graduate school at East Tennessee State University.

Brenna, '17, HRSM Tourism Management, played trumpet in the band her entire four years, has a masters degree in applied data analytics from Appalachian State University, and is now a data analyst in Kingsport, Tennessee.

When Audra, a fundraiser for Appalachian State, was asked to name a program that meant the most to her, she immediately thought of the School of Music at UofSC and the marching and pep bands. She described her motivation for establishing the scholarship, "Marching/ Basketball band was an integral part of our lives for 7 years and an extreme point of pride for our family. I'm that embarrassing band mom bopping around at almost every rally and game... This scholarship will be a way to support an area that meant so much to my children, as minority out-of-state students, to honor them with something reflective of their hard work and talent."

continued...

Averi McNeil first recipient of the Vaz Family Scholarship



Via a planned gift of life insurance, Audra established the Vaz Family Scholarship for students in the marching band, focused on assisting out-of-state students from underrepresented populations and for whom a scholarship would encourage their continued participation in the band. The scholarship is funded annually by the family and its first recipient is Averi McNeil.

Averi McNeil has the honor of being the first recipient of the Vaz Family Scholarship for students in the Marching Band. McNeil, a Senior Sport Management major in the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sports Management, is from Charlotte, NC.

McNeil remarked, "The family environment and love of music we all share was a way to get to meet others. We are from so many different majors of study but we have a common bond through the band."

This will be Averi's fourth year in the Carolina Bands playing tenor saxophone in marching and concert bands. Choosing Carolina because of her interest in sport medicine and management, she was at first hesitant about being in the band while in college, but is forever thankful that she did! It has provided her with life-long friendships, many of whom she has made as a member of Tau Beta Sigma service sorority.

Averi says she is humbled to be the first recipient of this family scholarship and that her goal is to be able to bless others in this way one day. She believes the experience of the band and the chance to study at Carolina have enhanced her personal journey and growth these past four years. Forever to thee, Averi.

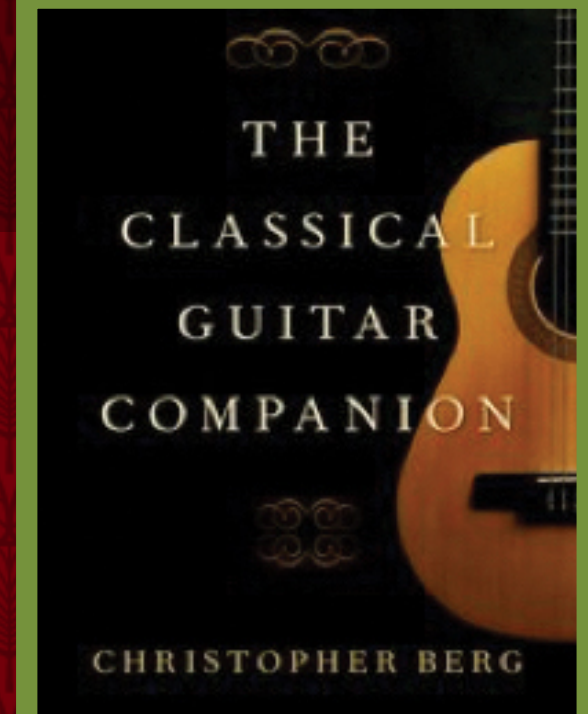
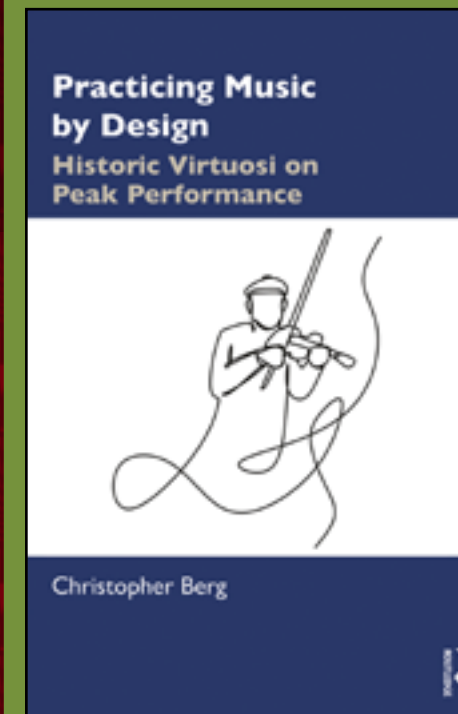
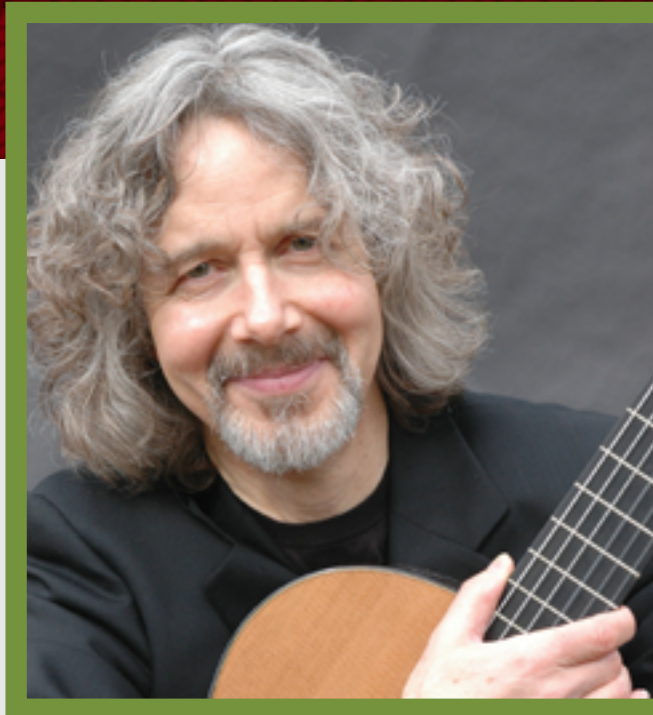
Christopher Berg on expanding the means of musical expression and developing more nuanced interpretations

Carolina Distinguished Professor Christopher Berg has taught at UofSC since 1978 and is known primarily as a performer and teacher, but during the last six months of 2019 he published two books with major publishers: *Practicing Music by Design: Historic Virtuosi on Peak Performance* with Routledge, and *The Classical Guitar Companion* with Oxford University Press.

Berg sees both books as different manifestations of the direction he's been going all along: working to expand the means of musical expression and to develop more nuanced interpretations of concert literature for himself and his students. "Whether this is done by playing concerts, composing music, or writing books, it all has to do with artistic expression in performance and how to create more compelling artistic interpretations," Berg says.

According to Berg, "*Practicing Music by Design* began with the insight that modern research on peak performance – most of which is centered around athletic skill – was anticipated by outstanding musicians and teachers of the past. For example, 19th- and early 20-century pianists such as Theodor Leschetizky, Chopin, Karl Leimer, Rachmaninoff and Alfred Cortot described ways of working that find confirmation in recent neurological and psychological research. This book makes these connections clear and is intended for all musicians who want to explore ways of achieving higher levels of technical mastery and musical artistry, including guitar players."

In the late 1990s, Berg stopped playing guitar for five years and started giving recitals on the Renaissance and baroque lute. "I've loved lute music ever since I was a student, but I became dissatisfied with transcriptions for guitar. I felt the only way I could really know this music – unmediated by an editor – was to study the lute, its technique, and play the music directly from the original manuscripts and



publications. I was in the interesting position of having trained countless guitar students and here I was a beginner on the lute. I gained a valuable pedagogical perspective," Berg said. "But I also had useful insights into performance. I spent most of one summer playing 16th-century Italian lute music, and the only music I heard was music I played. One day I turned on my car radio and heard a Mozart symphony. For about a minute I was disoriented. The Mozart symphony sounded modern. I had this realization about the value of approaching a piece of music from the era before rather than looking backwards from today, which is what today's classical musicians have to do by default. My ear changed, albeit briefly and unintentionally, as did my perceptions. The things that were new and different in the Mozart symphony stood out in a visceral way. This perspective has stayed with me, although I should add that Mozart no longer sounds modern to me. This is one example of something that altered my interpretation of literature from all periods as well as my writing."

Berg has been working on some arrangements of popular music for solo guitar and gets requests from guitarists for scores of music from *The Pilgrim Forest* – he's made three of them available and is working on editions of the rest. "I'm not so keen on writing anything, at least right now," he says, "although some uninvited ideas occasionally pop up in my head. I mainly want to play and study new literature. I learned a lot from writing those books and my ideas about interpretation, study, and technique are continually evolving. There's something ineffable about interpreting great music, but in one sense, it's a creative and artistic analysis made audible, even if that analysis can be expressed no other way. There's never an end to this work, but to use the words of the great cellist Pablo Casals, 'I think I'm making progress.'"

Music of alumnus Clay Mettens, “a thing of remarkable beauty.”



The Chicago Tribune has praised the music of David “Clay” Mettens as “a thing of remarkable beauty,” displaying a “sensitive ear for instrumental color.”

Alumnus **David Clay Mettens**, a 2013 Bachelor of Arts graduate in composition, was a recipient of The American Academy of Arts and Letters 2020 Charles Ives Music Awards in Music. The Academy announced the 17 recipients of the year’s awards, selected by a committee of Academy members, and are nominated by the 250 members of the Academy.

Mettens is currently adjunct instructor of music composition at Valparaiso University. His recent piece *stain, bloom, moon, rain* was released in August 2020 on the Grossman Ensemble’s debut album,

Fountain of Time (CCCC Records). The [Chicago Reader reviewed the album](#) and described the piece as “hypnotic and lithe, construct[ing] a riveting drama out of humble building blocks.”

“My mentors at Carolina helped me build a strong foundation for all the professional successes I’ve had today,” said Mettens.

Mettens’ work has been recognized with Ithaca College’s 2018 Heckscher Foundation Composition Prize, first prize in the 2018 Salvatore Martirano Composition Competition, a 2016 ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award, and the 2015 SCI/ASCAP graduate student commission.

A commission from the American Opera Initiative for a one-act opera was premiered in 2015 by the Washington National Opera at the Kennedy Center. His orchestra piece “Sleeping I am carried...” was selected for the 24th Annual Underwood New Music Readings with the American Composers Orchestra and the 2015 Young Composers Forum with the Brussels Philharmonic. The Brussels Philharmonic performed the piece in December 2016 at Flagey.

mettensmusic.com

Earth Song – a gift for everyone from students of the Carolina Cor Collective



The **Carolina Cor Collective**, the horn studio at UofSC under the direction of Professor **JD Shaw**, banded together to create this end-of-the-semester gift for everyone out there. “I actually was quite surprised and enlightened by the experience,” said Shaw, associate professor of horn.

“I had students uploading videos of their assignments each week. Because the students had to submit hard copy evidence of their playing, they engaged in much more focused practicing and critical problem-solving skills. Sometimes we viewed these videos in studio class or excerpt class, so the students wanted good performances to present to their peers. I watched their product improve substantially each week, more than they have progressed in the past. While I miss the live interaction face-to-face, I watched them work diligently to achieve a solid product (video) every week. When we return to normal, I will continue this process of video submission.”

When they come to lessons, we will review their videos and touch on some sections. Because of this, I think we might have more in-lesson time and ability to explore other facets of musicianship such as artistry, creativity, improvising, composing, sight-reading, fundamentals, listening, etc.”

[Watch it on YouTube](#)

First screen: **Timothy Smith, Sam Hay, Micaela Dixon, Hunter Lazan, Dakota Corbliss, Savannah Lutz and Carla Nazario**. Second screen: **Bailey Johnson, Madison Ray, Bailey Corp, Judah Rendelman, Tristan Burns and Graeme Rosner**.

Earth Song by Frank Ticheli, arranged for Horn Dectet by JD Shaw.

Video and audio engineering: Dakota Corbliss and Graeme Rosner



Founded in the Fall of 1920 as a student-led group of approximately 20 students, the Carolina Band has grown to number more than 360 students representing over 65 academic majors and 22 states. Students in the Carolina Band represent nearly every college and school on the USC Columbia campus, with numerous Honors College students and Capstone Scholars.

As the band marches toward a celebration of its Centennial in the spring and fall of 2021, it continues to entertain fans, serve the university and community, and provide students with an outlet to represent the very best of what the University of South Carolina has to offer.

The band will begin its centennial celebration with an online collection of history, personal accounts, congratulations messages, and media found at 100.carolinaband.org. Alumni and fans are invited to share their stories, photos, and memories. Look for more details to follow.

Welcome our newest Faculty

DOMINIC ARMSTRONG, assistant professor of voice, began his appointment at the beginning of August 2020. During the 2018-19 season, he joined the Syracuse Opera, singing Macduff in Verdi's *Macbeth*, the Florida Orchestra for Michael Tippett's *Child of Our Time*, the Kaohsiung Symphony Orchestra for an opera gala concert, and the Portland Symphony for Rachmaninoff's *The Bells*. He also toured southern France, performing Cavaradossi in *Tosca* with conductor Emmanuel Plasson, and participated in the U.S. national tour of Curtis on Tour.



ALEXANDRIA CARRICO, assistant professor of musicology and ethnomusicology, is an ethnomusicologist who specializes in traditional Irish music and disability studies. She earned her doctorate from Florida State University where she wrote her doctoral dissertation, "Musical Bridges to Inclusive Communities: Promoting Neurodiversity Acceptance through Traditional Irish Music in Limerick, Ireland," which explored how the participatory and community-based genre of traditional Irish music (TIM) can provide a space for diverse musicians to bridge neurodivergent-neurotypical gaps and, in so doing, break down negative stigma about people with disabilities. In the summer, she serves as the director for the Williams Syndrome Association's Whispering Trails Summer Music Camp for children and teenagers with Williams Syndrome.



JABARIE GLASS, assistant professor/associate director of choral studies, conducts University Chorus, Women's Chorus, and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting and choral music education. His diverse conducting experiences have included working with university, secondary, community youth, festival and church choral ensembles. He maintains an active schedule of concerts, lectures, guest conducting and adjudication engagements throughout the U.S. Ensembles under his leadership have received numerous honors and awards, including invitational performances at the American Choral Directors Association Southern Division Conference (2014) and the Mississippi-ACDA State Conference (2011).



MARY LUEHRSEN, professor of practice in music leadership and advocacy, is director of public affairs and government relations for NAMM, the National Association of Music Merchants and executive director of the NAMM Foundation. Since 2001, Luehrsen has directed NAMM's government relations and advocacy efforts and guides the organization as an international leader for music education. In addition, she directs the 120-year old organization in policy and advocacy issues that impact global music product businesses. Luehrsen is the NAMM Foundation's inaugural executive director since its formation in 2006.



SPARK's Creativity in Teaching Awards support creative elements in teaching

SARAH WILLIAMS WRITING ABOUT MUSIC AND “BEHIND THE PEAKE” PODCAST

How does one transpose musical experiences into words? How can musical performance be explicated and translated into prose? “Writing About Music” is a combination research- and skills-based graduate topics seminar in the music history area. In the course, students will research, evaluate and practice diverse modes of written communication that engage with sound and music including poetry, literature, blogs, historical musicology, music criticism, program annotations, ethnographies, interviews, oral histories and podcasts. Through rigorous analysis, community engagement, and peer- and self-critique, students will expand their abilities to read, think and write critically about their sounding world. The public-facing component is the interview-based podcast through which students would engage with public music discourse and visiting scholars.

KUNIO HARA CONCERT MATCHMAKERS

“Concert Matchmaker” is a service that attempts to match various performances taking place at the School of Music with potential audiences within the larger UofSC community and beyond. My plan is to gather a team of students “matchmakers” who will use their knowledge in music to help pick and recommend different events at the School to curious listeners.

MICHAEL HARLEY BASSOONS IN SCHOOLS

“Bassoons in Schools” creates more young SC bassoonists and nurtures players who could potentially make an impact here at UofSC should they decide to pursue a career in music. Daniel Goodmond, high school band director said, “The Bassoons in Schools program provided a valuable resource to our students in Richland One. Students were given free lessons on bassoon and increased student awareness and interest of the instrument. We are thankful to have the program and hope that it continues!”

CORMAC CANNON GENESIS: COMPOSER-ENSEMBLE COLLABORATION

The UofSC Wind Ensemble held a call for scores last spring to select five composition students who will compose original works to be premiered by the Wind Ensemble. The project will not only be an opportunity for these students to have their pieces workshopped, performed and recorded, but will also create a laboratory where the performers in the ensemble will benefit from the process of collaborating with composers, an experience critical to success in today's musical world.

SPARK's Creativity in Music Awards support students' inventive projects

JERRYANA WILLIAMS-BIBILONI COMMUNITY COMPOSERS

Rising senior, BM vocal performance and graduating with Leadership Distinction in Community Service

“It was fantastic to overhear the nuanced conversations between the groups about how we view sound and experience music... The 40 participants experienced the joy of music composition, some for the very first time, and heard their pieces performed live.”

Removing the boundaries of music literacy and focusing on music accessibility is the aim of Jerryana's project, an all-ages interactive compositional experience. She stripped back everything to the most basic like colors and shapes, creating a synesthesia-like connection to music. She modified the notation system so every pitch had a corresponding color; each duration was a sticker like a circle or star. Strips of paper were hung vertically for a staff but placement of stickers dictated the playing order. **Joseph Birch, Nigel Grant, Jaston Hawes** and **Shane Thomas**, former or current UofSC students, accepted the challenge of sight reading the pieces in front of an all-ages audience.

MADIE WILLARD MUSIC BEYOND THE SOUND

Madie's project will be a concert for the hearing impaired and deaf community. The audience will be able to experience a musical performance by using their other senses. “Everyone should be able to love music and feel the power music has. This community should not be left out,” said Madie. “There will be a signer there to translate everything that is said, and I will be researching the best ways for the audience to feel the sound waves. This project is unique because it gives a group that is not reached by music the opportunity to experience music.”

CALVIN GREEN Aos Si: A SONIC FAIRY TALE

In Irish folklore, the Aos Si are fairy-like people who live in earthen mounds and are invisible to humans. He plans to compose and present a piece of music for string quartet that imagines what the music of the Aos Si would sound like in a musical event that involves the installation of two large monochords in the performance space. An integral part of the event will be audience involvement in music creation. The work is intended to be a light-hearted and approachable introduction to contemporary music.



Making the best of a pandemic

Faculty and students talk about how they approached the challenges of Covid-19

What do Gamecock Cellists do during long days under a pandemic?

[Facebook link](#)

"This project has been a wonderful way for our cello studio to learn a new language of composer Sofia Gubaidulina and to find creative ways to share these miniatures with the world."

– **Claire Bryant, assistant professor, cello**

Robert-Christian Sanchez launches the Gamecock Cellists into our project, T-Minus 10: a Musical Countdown to May.

[Facebook link](#)

Doctoral candidate **Pai Liu** rang in May with the 'Four Short Studies' for solo cello by German composer Berd Alois Zimmerman. Written in the final year of his life, these tiny miniatures explore the range, colors and extremities of the instrument, and the composer leaves a lot of decisions to be made by the performer. [Facebook link](#)

Sometimes you have to forge your own path no matter how rocky the ride might be. Buckle up for Zimmerman 'short study #3' performed by **Pai Liu**. [Facebook link](#)

Junior MUED student **Courtney Kane**, plays this liquid vignette exploring the extended string technique of making harmonics and catching cool overtones on the cello. Sofia Gubaidulina: Prelude 6. Flagioletti

[Facebook link](#)

top L clockwise: **Robert-Christian Sanchez, Courtney Kane, Alberto Pelisier, Pai Liu, Lucas Miller, Rose DaGraca, Jeffrey Chen, Adam Beall, Tristan Groscoat, Laural Duncan**



Courtney Kane and her parents



Robert-Christian Sanchez



"Learning to play the ukulele with Dr. Valerio has reminded me that there are a multitude of ways to learn, teach, and express through music for all ages. I make music when I am not sure how to express what I am feeling and before I know it, I have written a song. I hope that this song brings the same innocent joy to those that hear it as it brought to me when writing it." [Here's the link.](#)

– **Crysta Caldwell, student**

"We're all looking for new ways of connection and interaction. Most importantly, have patience and give yourself and your students grace. This is unprecedented and we can't know what challenges are facing people at home."

– **Jeff Francis, School of Music recording engineer**

"After I flew back from Colorado to Columbia, the whole world changed. All teaching that went to Zoom created an initial challenge, since the audio and visual are not as clear, and you're not able to show musical concepts as much physically. But it also made my teaching more verbally concise and descriptive in order to get those concepts across. As students made their jury videos, they learned quite a bit about how to better evaluate all aspects of their playing to make sure they sent their best performance, which many found quite challenging! Recitals were either postponed, or done in living rooms from a YouTube link, that doesn't quite have the same dynamic as a live performance, but we all adapted and showed support through our computers. I appreciated the great spirit and hard work that our students showed under these unprecedented circumstances, and I look forward to working with returning and new students in the fall, in whatever teaching conditions we find ourselves in."

– **William Terwilliger, professor, violin**

"Our students stepped up to the challenge inherent to online instruction of music and musical concepts. With the absence of face-to-face interaction, it was rewarding to see passion continue to show through student work. Nothing can replace the musical experience of the ensemble setting, but there are and will continue to be valuable opportunities provided by our ensemble courses."

– **Jay Jacobs, associate director of bands / director of athletic bands**

Making the best of a pandemic

Faculty and students talk about how they approached the challenges of Covid-19

"Almost all my students transitioned from in-person to online lessons without missing a single week! Pre-recording videos for the Center for Piano Studies online recitals produced some of the highest-quality playing I have heard in my students yet! They practice noticeably more now that they're at home all day! They love giving virtual high-fives, and I love being able to secretly wear my unicorn slippers while teaching!" On the downside, "One of my student's poor internet connection has caused us to waste significant time in lessons each week."

– **Michaela Boros**, student, instructor

"I think we all listened to each other better because only one person can talk at a time on Zoom!!"

Gail Barnes, professor of music education/director of String Project



"The challenges in overcoming the limitations of online teaching/learning were analogous to wearing weighted shoes to climb a mountain."

– **Christopher McDonald**, DMA, classical guitar performance, GA in theory and community music school instructor

"It took some adjusting initially, but after a little bit of experience, the applied lessons were very productive."

Clifford Leaman, professor of saxophone/associate dean/director of graduate studies

2019-2020 Student News



Saxophonists traveled to Tempe, Arizona in early March to participate in the North American Saxophone Alliance's Biennial International Conference at Arizona State University.

Students **Matt Castner**, **Andrew Hutchens**, **Dillon Smith**, **Roman Holder**, **Alex Lofton**, **Coleman Wright**, **Thomas Drummond**, **AJ Johnston** and **Matt Kolar**

"It was such a pleasure to attend the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference," said Dillon Smith. "This was my first national conference and the level of playing from everyone across the country was incredible. In addition to listening to everyone, it was a lot of fun performing with my quartet and the saxophone choir. Even though our semester was cut short, I am glad that I was able to attend this conference and perform with my friends one more time before I graduate."

The Tau Beta Sigma National Council recognized the 2020 Baton Recipients in April at their D.C. al Coda event. **Rachel Kirk**, Epsilon Alpha, has served as Chapter President, Chapter Vice President for Service, and as a Drum Major in the Carolina Band. **Matthew Kolar** was named winner of the MTNA Young Artists Woodwind Competition for South Carolina. **Thomas Drummond** was the Alternate.

Winners of the 2019–2020 Concerto-Aria Competition:

Juan Nicolas Morales Espitia, piano, 2020, DMA

Chloe Madison Johnston, soprano, 2020, BM

Research Posters presented at the South Carolina Music Teachers Association Convention:

Mengyu Song, 2020 MM, **Nathan MacAvoy** 2020, DMA, **Karen Yong**, **Caryn Ong**, **Sunghun Kim**, **Qiwen Wan**, 2020 MM, **Michaela Boros** and **Sunjoo Lee**, 2020 DMA

2019-2020 Student News

PIANO PEDAGOGY STUDENT PRESENTERS:
Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) National Virtual Conference:
Michaela Boros, *DMA candidate*
Nathan MacAvoy, *2020, DMA*
Hannah Creviston, *2005, MM and 2008 MME*
Dr. Scott Price (faculty)
Dr. Sara Ernst (faculty)

Fall 2019 President's and Dean's List:
54 music majors earned a perfect 4.0 GPA in Fall 2019 semester and a spot on the President's Honor Roll; 109 earned a spot on the Dean's List.
In Fall 2019, nine undergraduate students graduated; two were honor graduates:
Derrick Burbage, **Jeffrey Coombs**, **Malechi Doren** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Michael Gritzbach**, **Michael Halbrook** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Jada Hooker**, **Savannah Huggins**, **Matthew Slay**, and **Nicholas Vlandis**.

Spring 2020 President's & Dean's List:
89 music majors earned a perfect 4.0 GPA in the Spring 2020 semester and a spot on the President's Honor Roll, while another 95 earned a spot on the Dean's List.
In Spring 2020, we had 51 undergraduate students graduate; 28 were honor graduates:

Megan Balestrero (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Morgan Bostick**, **Kyle Bryant** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Isaac Chandler** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Alex Clark**, **Grayson Cribb**, **Chase Cunningham**, **Rose DaGraca** (*Summa Cum Laude*), **Keith Dembitsky** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Ethan Dilley** (*Cum Laude*), **Sean Ellen**, **Sam Epps**, **Cameron Fernandez**, **Emiko Fukuda** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Catherine Galan** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Matthew Guffey** (*Cum Laude*), **Jonathan Hampton**, **Kaleb Hayes**, **Isaiah Hogue**, **Dwayne Johnson**, **Maddie Johnston** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **William Jones**, **Hunter Lazan** (*Cum Laude*), **Savannah Lutz** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Shannon McDonald** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Trevor McLaine** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Samuel McNamee** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Luke Meche**, **Brady Moffett**, **William Newton** (*Cum Laude*), **Jacob Otis**, **Thomas Palmer** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Jacob Patrick**, **Drew Preston** (*Cum Laude*), **Hannah Redd**, **Meleah Riddle**, **Spencer Robinson**, **Samuel Roomian**, **Graeme Rosner** (*Summa Cum Laude*), **Michaela Sciacca** (*Cum Laude*), **Caroline Scobee** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Victoria Shockley** (*Cum Laude*), **Morgan Skelley** (*Cum Laude*), **Alex Thompson** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Joshua Tuttle** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Vaviel Verner** (*Magna Cum Laude*), **Emily Whitlow**, **Celeste Wiest** (*Cum Laude*), **Edmond Williams**, **Nathan Woods** (*Cum Laude*), **Benjamin Zuber**

Music Teachers National Association Group Piano Pedagogy Forum National Virtual Conference:
Karen Yong, *DMA candidate*
Caryn Ong, *DMA candidate*

2019-2020 Student News

South Carolina Music Teachers Association (SCMTA) state conference
Verena Abufaiad, main conference presenter, DMA
Research Posters
Michaela Boros
Sunjoo Lee
Sunghun Kim
Nathan MacAvoy
Caryn Ong
Mengyu Song
Qiwon Wan
Karen Yong

Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Collegiate Piano Pedagogy Symposium
Sunghun Kim, *DMA candidate*
Louie Hehman, *2020, DMA, piano pedagogy*

Recent Graduate News
Meilun An was second place winner in the MTNA Young Artist Piano Competition. *2020, DMA*
Megan Balestrero is Blythewood Middle School, Choral Director, Blythewood, SC. *2020, BM, emphasis music education (choral)*
Morgan Bostick is Private Music Instructor, Columbia, SC. *2020, BM emphasis music education (winds)*
Emma Brown is Violin and Viola Instructor, Suzuki Academy of Columbia. *2020, MM, Violin and Viola Pedagogy*
Derrick Burbage is Member Service Representative at Palmetto Citizens Federal Credit Union, Columbia, SC. *2019, BM, emphasis music education (winds)*
Alexander Clark is Strom Thurmond High School, Director of Bands, Johnston, SC. *2019, BM, emphasis music education (winds)*
Charles Cunningham is Tacosca High School, Assistant Band Director, Amarillo, TX. *2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)*
Keith Dembitsky is Bates Middle School Band Director, Sumter, SC. *2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)*
Matthew Guffey is Pacolet Middle School Band and Choir Director, Pacolet, SC. *2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)*
Chelsy Harris is Williams Middle School Band Director, Florence, SC. *2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)*
Kaleb Hayes is Mitchell Elementary School Music Specialist, Charleston, SC. *2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)*

2019-2020 Student News

Savannah Huggins is Butler Elementary School Music Specialist, Savannah, GA.
2019, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Dwayne Johnson is Mayo High School Band Director, Darlington, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Shannon McDonald is Goodwin Elementary, Music Specialist, North Charleston, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Brady Moffett is Latta Middle School Band Director, Latta, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Meleah Riddle is Chester Middle School, Band Director, Chester, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Spencer Robinson is Private Trumpet Instructor, Charleston, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Michaela Sciacca is Riverbank Elementary Music Specialist, Columbia, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Victoria Shockley is Rochester Prep, Elementary Music Director, Rochester, NY.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Celeste Wiest is Pinegrove Elementary, Music Specialist, Columbia, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Nathan Woods is Lugoff-Elgin High School, Assistant Band Director, Lugoff, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (winds)

Grayson Cribb is Sneed Middle School, Choral Director, Florence, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (choral)

Sarah Floyd is Waccamaw Middle School, Choral Director, Pawleys Island, SC.
2020, MM, emphasis music education (choral)

Annie Tindall Gibson was appointed adjunct Assistant Professor at South Carolina State University. *2020, DMA*

Jada Hooker is Indian Land High School, Choral Director, Indian Land, SC.
2019, BM, emphasis music education (choral)

Andrew Preston is Music Director, Green Hill Baptist Church; Music Instructor, Freeway Music. *2020, BM emphasis music education (strings)*

Caroline Scobee is Centerville Elementary School, Music Specialist, Lexington, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (choral)

Alexandria Thompson is Ridgeview High School, Choral Director, Columbia, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (choral)

Benjamin Zuber, self-employed Piano Instructor, Charleston, SC.
2020, BM, emphasis music education (choral)

Alumni News

School of Music ALUMNI, we want to hear from you

The University's alumni giving call center is taking a break, but we want to keep in touch so we hope you will let us know where you are and what you're doing. Did your home or work address change? Did you have a significant life event, or earn another degree? Have you received recognition or awards through your work, performances, service to the community, or other activities? Have an upcoming performance? Please let us know about your latest news!

And we are issuing a challenge – help us find that we have a UofSC School of Music alumnus in each of the 50 states! If we do, you could help your School of Music unlock a big incentive during our next Give4Garnet day!

[Update your contact information and share your news here](#) or send your information via email to development@mozart.sc.edu.

Also, be sure to check out the new [Alumni page](#) on our website sc.edu/music to stay up-to-date on alumni events at the School of Music and spotlights of your fellow alumni.

Jay Aiken is the Music Director at St. Mark United Methodist Church in Augusta, GA where they will present two performances of *Amahl and the Night Visitors* on December 12, 2020 with full orchestra and two outstanding Augusta vocal performers, Washington Isaac Holmes (Melchior) and Richard Cook (Kaspar). Admission is free. Members of the chorus will be represented by the five St. Mark Scholarship Students from Augusta University. *DMA, conducting, 2016*

Elise Naber Allen completed her first year as Band Director at Monroe County Middle School in Forsyth, Georgia this May after previously serving as the band director at Jacksboro Middle School in Jacksboro, TX, Windthorst High School in Windthorst TX, and Wichita Christian School in Wichita Falls, TX. She completed her MMed in August 2019 from the University of North Texas and presented her research on female band directors at the Georgia Music Educators Association Convention in January 2020. *BM, 2013.*

Kat Arrasmith presented a research poster, **It Looks Like It Sounds: Transcribing Young Children's Music Vocalizations** at the 2019 biennial meeting of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition in New York City. She published her first peer-reviewed article "Infant music development and music experiences: A literature review in UPDATE: Applications of Research in Music Education (2019). She will also present a research talk on the topic of kindergarten and first grade children's music improvisations during remote learning at the 2020 NAFME National Conference. *MME, 2018; PhD in progress*

This virtual performance by the Hammond School 5th, 6th and 8th-12th grade choirs, alumni and directors **Steven Hillard** and **Robert Eben Trobaugh** (MM, composition, 2001) share a bright light during these troubled times. Students provided the words and

Alumni News

inspiration and one of directors, Trobaugh set it to music for this original composition. It serves as a lovely reminder of how we persevere during the pandemic. [Look and listen here.](#)

Bryann Burgess, piano and voice student while in the UofSC CarolinalIFE program, was invited to speak at the 2019 National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in Chicago. Read her presentation [“Rethinking disABILITIES and Music Education,” here.](#)

Katherine Chandler accepted a position as Lecturer at Clemson University. *DMA, 2018*

Ashley Cook, Lance Corporal Ashley Cook, won an audition for the US Marine Corp bands. She completed training and is now stationed with the Marine Corps Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC) Band in Hawaii. *BM, oboe, 2013*

Mary Anne Farmer completed her 2016-2020 tenure as South Carolina Music Education Association Elementary Honor Choir Chairperson. *BM, emphasis music education (choral), 2002*

Paige (Gould) Ferrara has accepted the position of South Carolina Music Education Association Elementary Honor Choir Logistics Chairperson. *BM, emphasis music education (choral), 2018*

Rosalyn W. Floyd, Professor in the Department of Music at Augusta University, performed as the accompanist on the recording *Sankofa: A Spiritual Reflection* (Albany Records, 2019). She was a panelist and presenter for “My Sister’s Keeper: Operas by African American Women” at the 2020 National Opera Association National Conference, and was a scheduled presenter and performer, along with Dr. Martin David Jones and Dr. Clara Park, for “Six Hands on Deck” at the 2020 Music Teachers National Association National Conference which was cancelled due to the pandemic. *DMA, piano performance and pedagogy, 1990*

Robert E. Freaney, Jr., a retired pilot and Air Force Reservist, recently gave a piano recital at the Fallbrook Library in California as part of his monthly recital series “Freaney and Friends” sponsored by the Friends of the Fallbrook Library. He was also recently appointed as president of the Fallbrook Music Society. In this role he works in tandem with San Diego County and other local non-profits to raise funds each year to support eight classical concerts and provide music assemblies to the Fallbrook Union Elementary and Bonsall school districts, 14 schools in all. *BA, applied piano, 1978*

Brianna Futch recently accepted a position in 2019 as a flute maker in the finishing department at Powell Flutes in Maynard, MA. She currently lives and freelances in the greater Boston area. *MM, 2018*

Susanna Gibbons, Vocal Music Director at Benson High School in Nebraska, collaborated in the summer of 2019 with fellow UofSC alum David Cochrane (MM, 2016) and current DMA candidate Matt Castner on a performance of sacred choral music in Moscow, Russia. *BM, voice, 2012*

Music ed alumnus **Walter Graham** was named teacher of the year at Dreher High School in Columbia, SC. He is the choral teacher and department chair there. *MM, choral conducting, 2014*

Louie Hehman has accepted a position as faculty at Bellarmine University in Louisville, KY. *DMA, piano, pedagogy*

Alumni News

Dr. Andy Jurik has performed and presented his research on improvisation and classical/jazz fusion at the Dublin Guitar Symposium, the Guitar Foundation of America Convention, Radford University, and Montreat College. He is on faculty at both the University of North Carolina Asheville and Western Carolina University. He teaches classical and jazz guitar, music theory, aural skills, and leads the Astor Piazzolla ensemble. His first album, *strive*, featuring his arrangements for solo guitar, will be released at the end of 2020. *DMA, guitar performance, 2016*

Reggi Lammers is Patron Services Manager for the Honolulu Opera. *BA, 2017*

Briana Leaman currently living and working in Melbourne, Australia, started studies at Fine Arts and Music at Melbourne - VCA & Conservatorium for a PhD in Music Performance. She is the Victorian state representative for Australian Double Reed Society and one of the artistic directors for the 2020 virtual conference. *BM, 2013*

José Lezcano, professor of music at Keene State College, performed a concert of works for guitar and string quartet for the Ellingwood Concert Series in Nahant, Mass in 2019. The program included works by Vivaldi, Paganini, Boccherini, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, and Lezcano’s original work, “Mojito, Guitar & String Quartet.” Also in 2019 abd n conjunction with the Currier Museum of Arts’ exhibition, “From Medieval to Metal: The Art & Evolution of the Guitar,” he gave two lecture-recitals performing works originally composed for vihuela, baroque five-course guitar, nineteenth-century parlor guitar, Maccaferri guitar, and modern Spanish concert guitar, by Milan, Sanz, Sor, Tarrega, and Django Reinhardt (June 4 & August 18); and gave a lecture-recital, “The Guitar in Latin America,” at the Quincy Bog Natural Area (Rumney, NH) sponsored by the NH Humanities Council To-GO Lecture Series (6/12/2019). Other activities included a residency at the 2019 Barcelona Festival of Song, during which he accompanied singers in a wide range of Spanish and Latin American repertoire, and performed a solo recital of Iberoamerican works, including the world premiere of his **Café Songs**, with Dr. Patricia Caicedo, soprano and founder/director of the Festival. Dr. Lezcano also performed a solo recital in Louriçal do Campo, Portugal, featuring the Bach Chaconne, Scarlatti sonatas, pieces by Spanish composers, and original guitar solos. *MM, guitar performance, 1983*

Fiona McGowan is Assistant Band Director at Roosevelt High School, Sioux Falls, SD. *BM, emphasis music education (band) and MM, saxophone performance, 2020*

Mengdi Li accepted a full-time position at Jiangxi Normal University in China. *DMA, 2019*

Huiyun Liang accepted a position as Instructor at Lindenwood University. *DMA, 2019*

Evy Lois has been appointed as Instructor of Music at South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD. She will be teaching applied lessons in voice and a course about American popular music. *MM, voice, 2019*

Jacob Lyerly was awarded the 2019 Stuart Weber Scholarship. This is a merit-based scholarship that awards full tuition to one American guitarist to study at The Volterra Project Summer Guitar Institute in Volterra, Italy. Jacob received his MM degree in Guitar Performance from Peabody Conservatory in May of 2020. *BM, guitar performance, 2017*

Luke Meche is Music Specialist at Wood Elementary, Columbia, SC. *BM, music education (band), 2020*

Alumni News

Michael Moore began his tenure as South Carolina Music Education Association President (2019-2021). *Ph.D., Music Education, 2005*

Tony Morris filmed content at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas, TX for a PBS TV interstitial documentary series, “Music In Medicine,” which features medical research on the efficacy of the therapeutic benefits of music, combined with powerful and emotional testimonial interviews with medical professionals and musicians. His nationally-distributed radio program, Classical Guitar Alive! entered its 23rd year of nation distribution, and currently airs weekly on over 200 NPR and classical radio stations across the USA and abroad. The Classical Guitar Alive nonprofit organization he founded received funding award increases from the National Endowment for the Arts, The Texas Commission on the Arts, and the City of Austin Cultural Arts division for its work promoting Music In Medicine. He also directed and wrote pre-production film trailers for his West Texas-based horror film screenplay, “Marfa Ghost Stories.” *BM, guitar performance, 1989*

Mark Nabholz, Associate Professor and Director of Choral Activities at Mississippi College and Artistic Director of the Mississippi Chorus, has been appointed Chief Editor of Publications for the National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO), in which capacity he will oversee the organization’s peer review journal The Choral Scholar, and the NCCO Choral Music Series in cooperation with ECS Publishing. *DMA, conducting, 2011*

Sarah Newton was named 2019-20 Teacher of the Year for James B. Edwards School of Global Leadership, Mount Pleasant, SC. *BM, emphasis, music education (winds), 2015*

Christian Noon accepted a position at the University of Missouri as the Assistant Director of Bands and Assistant Teaching Professor of Music Education. *Ph.D., 2020*

Keri Lee Pierson is teaching a class at the Honors College at Flagler College in the Spring – part of the Learning Community classes where second semester Freshman in the Honors College are required to take a paired-course option that follows a theme. This year’s theme is “Communities in Context.” Pierson also teaches K-6th graders at a small private school, Veritas Classical School Saint Augustine where she is starting the program from scratch, and is assistant director of the St. Augustine Youth Chorus. *MM, Voice, 2018*

Kevin Poelking, composer and instructor of theory and undergraduate conducting at Colorado State University, was invited to present at the 2019 Colorado Music Educators Association Conference on his presentation “Work-Life Balance: Helping Your Students by Helping Yourself”, he was a winner of the Dallas Winds Fanfare Competition and subsequently received a World Premiere performance in Myerson Concert Hall in November 2019, and in July of 2019 he was selected from an international pool of applicants to rehearse and conduct The United States Army Band “Pershing’s Own” in concert where he was awarded the band’s medal “For Excellence” by leader and commander Col. Andrew Esch. *BM, music education and percussion certificate, 2011*

David Pope has received the ASTA String Researcher Award for 2020. He is Associate Professor of Music Education at Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory. *MM, 2005*

Christopher Schoelen was recruited over the summer of 2019 to run the guitar Vendor Expo at the 2019 Boston Guitar Festival. Recently, he has been hired as adjunct faculty to start the create and develop the guitar program at Flagler College in Saint Augustine, FL, and he began

Alumni News

a music ministry position at Memorial Presbyterian Church where he sings with the choir and performers on the guitar for services. He is also finishing his second solo guitar album, which is scheduled to be released in 2020. *DMA, guitar performance, 2019*

Margaret Selby was named Teacher of the Year at Laing Middle School in Charleston County. *MM, cello performance, 2003*

Steve Sloan released a solo guitar album titled *A Peaceful Escape* in December 2018. It is a collection of modern tonal music that includes a composition by UofSC Professor Christopher Berg. Sloan also maintains his positions as guitar instructor for The Suzuki Academy of Columbia and UofSC, and as adjunct faculty at UofSC Aiken. *MM, guitar performance, 2009*

Dillon Smith is Sandhills Middle School, Band Director, Columbia, SC. *BM, emphasis music education (band), 2018; Master of Music, saxophone performance, 2020*

Jason Terry accepted a tenure track Assistant Professor position at Samford University. *DMA, 2015*

Courtney Trent has accepted the position of South Carolina Music Education Association Elementary Honor Choir Chairperson. *BM, emphasis in music education (choral), 2017*

Meredith Trobaugh completed her 2016-2020 tenure as South Carolina Music Education Association Elementary Honor Choir Logistics Chairperson. *BM, emphasis music education (choral), 2000; MME, 2001*

Scott Watkins, Professor of Piano at Jacksonville University, gave a lecture recital for the Society for American Music in Minneapolis in 2019, and he was the featured soloist in Hanson’s Piano Concerto with the Florida State University Philharmonia Orchestra this past November. *MM, 1990*

Kristen (Rhyner) Williams was recently named Teacher of the Year for Lexington Elementary School in Lexington School District One in SC. *BM, emphasis music education (winds), 2008; MME, 2013*

Matthew Wyatt is Orchestra Director, Gable Middle School, Spartanburg County School District 6. *MME, 2020*

Eliezer Yanson Jr is Director of Choral Activities at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama. As Associate Professor, he directs the A Cappella Choir, Chamber Singers and Civic Chorale, and teaches undergraduate and graduate music classes. *DMA, choral conducting, 2010*

Faculty News

Phillip Bush continued touring his “PianoUSA1919” project in US cities in fall 2019, including Milwaukee and Boston. The Boston Musical Intelligencer called Bush’s performance of the Charles Ives “Concord” Sonata “passionate, exquisite, magical.” In December, Bush traveled to Paris to join the Philip Glass Ensemble for live performances of the “Qatsi” film trilogy (Koyaanisqatsi, Powaqatsi, and Naqoyqatsi) at the Philharmonie de Paris concert hall. In January he returned to the St. Barts Music Festival in the Caribbean to join artists such as violinists Jennifer Frautschi and Maureen Nelson, flutist Robert Langevin, and oboist Alex Klein, in chamber music performances. In February Bush appeared as soloist at the Koger Center with the South Carolina Philharmonic in a performance of the Beethoven First Piano Concerto. In addition to a busy performing schedule (until concerts shut down in March), Bush presented master classes at Illinois State University, University of Missouri and Boston Conservatory at Berklee.

Cormac Cannon was selected to perform at the CBDNA - College Band Directors National Association National Conference in February 2021 at the University of Georgia in Athens.

Sara Ernst has been recognized for her leadership as President of SCMTA and major role planning the state conference. She has also been recently appointed as Director of Teacher Engagement for the Frances Clark Center, for which she leads programming for the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy.

Birgitta Johnson participated in a webinar discussion hosted by the University of Denver and GIA Publications, Inc. on “Choral Diversity – Equity in Sound and Practice” on August 3, 2020. The panel included educator/practitioners in choral music education and we discussed ideas for implementing policies of inclusion and equity, as well as practical steps towards enacting true, effective diversity in our music making and in the classroom. [Video of the panel can be viewed here.](#) Johnson presented her research paper “‘Hallelujah Anyhow!’: Thomas Whitfield and the Sanctified Legacy of Detroit Contemporary Gospel Music” at the Society for American Music’s Virtual Conference 2020 in July. The conference was to take place in March in Minneapolis, MN but with the COVID-19 pandemic, it was postponed and launched as the first multi-day conference held by a major academic organization in 2020. At the SAM Virtual Conference 2020, Johnson was installed as Member-At-Large on the Board for the Society of American Music. Johnson was interviewed in June for a two-hour news and music special for WFUV’s Juneteenth celebration. It includes scholars from several disciplines, musicians, and activists. The special is a part of 90.7 FM in New York’s A Little Bit Louder Now. Johnson’s [interview segment](#) comes in at the 34:45 mark as the Sam Cooke song. The Columbia Museum of Art asked Johnson to curate a playlist for its new exhibit of legendary photographer Kwame Brathwaite’s work called Black is Beautiful. The exhibition opened on June 27 and runs through September 6, 2020. The playlist will be among others played in the museum as masked visitors enjoy this striking and historic photo exhibit. [Johnson’s playlist is here.](#) It features older as well as contemporary music featured in some of the MUSC and AFAM classes Johnson has taught over the years.

Greg Stuart received a [review in the San Diego Union Tribune](#) for the premiere of a new work for solo amplified percussion and orchestra.

With Gratitude to Our Contributors

The UofSC School of Music thanks the following donors for their generous support. Your contributions provide much-needed funding for scholarships, fellowships, world-renowned guest artists, music rentals and many other items that support our programs. [This list reflects gifts given during Fiscal Year 20 \(July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020\).](#)

\$10,000+

Estate of Henry E. Cooper, Jr.
Mrs. Shirley M. Knox
Mary and Jyotindra Parekh
Estate of Hellen H. PerMar
Estate of Henry S. Proctor
Rice Music House
Lisa and Rob Wilcox

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous
Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, Inc.
Estate of The Reverend Harold N. Kirkland
Fran and Dennis Nolan
Robert S. Handler Charitable Trust
Symphony League
Patricia and James Weiss
Harriet Williams and Jerry Hagenmaier

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Rory and Richard Ackerman
Dr. Alice K. Adams
Andy D. Akiho
Suzanne Thorpe and John Baynes
Cheryl and Boyd Black
Ruta and Robert Bly
Pam and Vince Bond
Laura and Michael Bull
Laura and Cormac Cannon
Shouli and Quanwei Cao
Laury Christie and David Vaughan
Christina and Emory Clark
Robin and John Dean
Debbi and Ted Fetner
Annette and Stephen Francis
Jerry Dell and Ben Gimarc
Mrs. Virginia M. Grose
Barbara and Jim Guignard
Jenny and C. B. Hall

Carol and Greg Hand
Christine and Tayloe Harding
Matthew C. Jones
Mary and Billy Keenan
Amelia and Zachary Kilpatrick
Geraldine and George King
Carolyn West and John Logue
Ms. Patricia G. Lovit
Anya and Frank Martin
Betsy McKay
Roberta and Jeffrey McKeever
Dr. Gail L. Morrison
Musical Innovations
Vickie and Pete Neighbour
Myra and Mike Nelson
Eleanor and Herb Niestat
Palmetto Mastersingers
Ms. Dorothy A. Poston
Kim and Robb Powell
Presser Foundation
Kathy and Jay Ratterree
Nancy and Hunter Rentz
Mr. Charles C. Rone, Jr.
Prof. Ellen D. Schlaefel
Schmoyer and Company, LLC
Dr. Bernadette F. Scott
Mr. Baljinder S. Sekhon, II
Patricia T. Smith, Esquire
Snyder Watchorn Foundation, Inc.
Brigitta and Mano Solinski
South Carolina Flute Society
Jean and Les Sternberg
Ms. Audrey B. Trujillano
Susie and Pat VanHuss
Erin and Bob Vincent
Ms. Frances M. Webb
Ms. Haley E. West
Mr. John R. Whitehead, Jr.
Susan Will and Jacob Will
Harriett and Blake Williams

With Gratitude to Our Contributors

Mrs. Barbara M. Williams
Angela R. Williams

\$500-\$999

Joy and Bill Ackerman
Gillian Scalici-Albrecht and Helmut Albrecht
Ms. Lotte Chakowski
Cogsdill Tool Products, Inc.
Lynn and Jay Collins
Carolyn and Alan Conway
Helen Doerpinghaus and Wayne Kannaday
Nancy and John Elton
Cynthia Flynn and Guy Jones
Dr. Charles L. Fugo
Mrs. Patricia S. Garrett
John N. Gaston
John C. Glancy
Bonnie and Harry Goldberg
Connie and Don Gray
Ms. Elizabeth V. Gray
Mr. Allen Hall
Ellen and Richard Helman
Charlotte and Alan Kahn
Carol and John Kososki
Polly Laffitte
Marina Lomazov and Joseph Rackers
Bonnie and Steve Lynch
Ruth and Sanford Marcus
Mr. Clyde T. McCants
Ellen and Tom Monahan
Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Rick and Penny Palyok
Pecknel Music Company, Inc.
Theresa and John Perry
Dr. Joseph Rubin
Carol C. Saunders
Lucinda and David Shields
Sigma Alpha Iota Theta Chi
Linda and George Simonson
Patricia and Karl Snyder
Charles R. Sox, Jr.
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Tina and David Stallard
Elissa and Bryan Stikeleather

Judith C. Thompson
Jimmy A. Tiller, Jr.
Shirley and Thomas Tinker
Audra and Johann Vaz
Ms. Marie D. Watt
Cornelia and Leland Williams
Ms. F. M. Wissel

\$250-\$499

Sandra Aidar-McDermott and Gerald McDermott
Joan and Jim Assey
Anne and Scott Bagwell
Mary and Clinch Belser
Blythewood Middle School PTO
Kris and Ronald Burns
Shannon and Chris Bussell
Caro Federal Credit Union
Chamber Pots
Peggy and David Chiarella
Jean and Charles Cook
Mrs. Kay G. Crowe
Dr. John H. Dawson
Ms. Terrell P Dolbier
Bettie and Van Edwards
Nancy and Mickey Epting
Yi Sun and Man Fang
Erica and Michael Fica
Catherine Forbes and Pitsch Karrer
Fruhauf Uniforms, Inc.
Ms. Sharon Gaskin
Sidney and Jerry Gatch
Mr. Robert L. Giovanelli
Winifred and Dick Goodwin
Kunio Hara and Danny Jenkins
Sue and George Harper
Sunny and David Herring
Elizabeth Joiner and Buford Norman
Marisa and Michael Kaiser
Dr. Nancy E. Lane
Raymonda and Cliff Leaman
Pamela and Richard Litwin
Marchmaster
Mr. Mark S. McGill

With Gratitude to Our Contributors

Loretta and Walter McKelvey
Jackie and Charles McNeill
Ginny Newell and Bob Wilkins
Sharon and Dennis O'Keefe
Deborah and Joseph Piccirilli
Barbara and Nick Pizzey
Ellen and David Potter
Lillian and Dave Quackenbush
Dr. John F. Rogers
Dr. Steven J. Rosansky
Elizabeth and David Scherer
Mr. W. S. Shuler
Rachel and Rick Silver
Simply Connected Ltd.
Mr. Dennis G. Smith
Tom Miller and Ellen Woodoff
Top of the World

\$100-\$249

Ms. Sarah G. Adams
Ms. Sandra Allen
Dottie R. Allen
Erin and Reg Bain
Maxine Warshauer and Sam Baker
Dr. Drucilla K. Barker
Gail and Gregory Barnes
Mrs. Evelyn S. Barron
Dr. Anne L. Bezuidenhout
Mrs. Elizabeth H. Bishop
Richard and Ruth Boiteau
Jean and Matt Boiteau
Dr. Susan C. Bon
Ms. Molly G. Bonnell
Mrs. Barbara C. Bowers
Stacey and Jim Brennan
Karen and Barry Bridwell
Mr. Robert J. Brown
Dr. Thomas J. Brown
Mrs. Lois S. Brunton
Nancy and Earl Bryant
Katie and James Burgess
Ann and Robert Buys
Mr. Reuben S. Cain
Ms. Anne M. Campbell

Dr. John Ceballes
Dr. Deidre M. Clary
Heather and Britt Cooper
Jean and Terry Cox
Melissa and William Craft
Kristin and Tony Creed
Mr. Bobby Cummings
CWMG, LLC.
Dorothy and Keith Davis
Gail and David Dawson
Iris and Marion Dillard
Mr. James R. Donkin
Dr. Caroline M. Eastman
Mrs. Gradi G. Evans
Mr. George S. Fetner
Mr. Cory W. Fica
Mr. Matthew W. Fink
Florida and Beyond Group Travel
Mr. Kevin Flowers
Julia Frazer-Madge and Joseph Madge
Dr. Martha C. Freibert
Dr. David K. Garner
Dolores and Charles Gatch
Charles E. Gatch
Ms. Tara F. George
Laveta and Michael Gibson
Miss Elizabeth B. Glazebrook
Renee and Robert Graham
Mrs. Sylvia B. Grubb
Mr. Stephen S. Hait
Ms. Dominica M. Harding
Katty and Charles Hite
Margaret and Dick Hunt
Katie and Thomas Hutchens
Sara Schechter-Schoeman and
Bob Jesselson
Ms. Gerda M. Kahn
Dr. Sandra J. Kelly
Susan Kelly and Alan Baker
Lynn Kompass and Phillip Bush
Mary Bull and Craig Kridel
Ms. Elizabeth L. Langley
Serena and Michael Laroche
Suzanne and Russell LaVoy

With Gratitude to Our Contributors

Janis and Deryl Leaphart
Mr. Paul Leo
Dr. Charles H. Lesser
Laurens and Jack Livings
Ms. Kimberly Logan
Susan and Bruce Lueck
Mrs. Carol G. MacNett
Dr. Terry N. Magee
Lindsay and Jan Malcher
Tina Cundari and Cory Manning
Mr. Kenneth W. May
Betsy and Ryan McCall
Ms. Bonnie B. McNeill
Ann Poling and Allen Miller
Ms. Kathryn M. Miller
Nelle and Brian Murrell
Sandra and Stephen Ostapeck
Shannon and James Owens
Melissa and Tommy Padgett
Joanna and Lance Paulman
Phi Mu Alpha Fraternity
Ms. Effie M. Philips
Diane and Craig Phinney
Ms. Sharon M. Phipps
Samantha and Nelson Ploch
Mrs. Ann M. Polsley
Porkchop Productions
Mr. Roy Price
Fay and Frank Putnam
Mr. Jared Rawlings
Ms. Anna M. Redwine
Jan and Jimmy Reeves
Ms. Lynn Robertson
Ms. Mary C. Robinson
Mr. Mark D. Roddy
Dr. John D. Ross
Marty and Mitchell Santiago
Mary and Brian Sartori
Ms. Ardis M. Savory
Jenni and Lewis Scheiderer
Dr. William C. Schmidt, Jr.
Diana and Karl Schuler
Dr. Constance B. Schulz
Nancy and Mark Seeley

Sharon and Richard Shealy
Mrs. Harriett D. Smith
Ms. Joanne W. Smith
Saundra and Randy Smoak
Judy and Minot Stanton
Mr. Robert M. Sutton Jr.
Mr. Lloyd B. Thompkins Jr.
Katherine and Richard Tiller
Susan and Michael Tolley
Katherine Presty and Stephen Tuel
Tytan Homes, LLC
Jan and Josh Waine
Michelle Baker and Robin Waites
Ms. Heidi Willard

[This list reflects gifts made in Fiscal Year '20 \(7/1/2019 – 6/30/20\).](#)

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, but if your name is missing, please contact the Development Office in the School of Music.

We hope you will consider making a gift to the School of Music. Your gift, combined with the power of others, helps our School meet emerging needs and opportunities and funds scholarships for deserving students, faculty recruitment and innovative new programming that enhances the overall Carolina experience.

Please let us help you make a contribution in a way that is most meaningful to you. Contact director of development, Polly Laffitte, at 803-777-4337 or laffitte@sc.edu.
[Or make a gift online at sc.edu/music/giving.](https://sc.edu/music/giving)

Thank you for your applause, your friendship and your financial support of the School of Music.