

# Music at Drake

## Drake University Department of Music

2012 - 2013

### FROM THE CHAIR

#### Robert Meunier, Interim Chair

It is truly an exciting time to be a part of Drake Music!

At Drake, our students enjoy big school opportunities while benefitting from the personalized attention that comes from working directly with our outstanding music faculty in a one-on-one setting. Our ensembles are among the finest that you will experience anywhere in the United States, and the performance opportunities we offer, ranging from solo and chamber music recitals, to recording, to international tours will prepare you to meet the challenges of the music profession.

Drake students continue to distinguish themselves in a wide variety of regional and national soloist competitions by winning awards

from the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), and the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), and by winning young artist soloist competitions held annually by regional symphony orchestras. Our students have collaborated with internationally known artists including Wynton Marsallis, Jon Nakamatsu, Richard Stoltzman, David Berger, Maria Schneider, Dawn Upshaw, and the Des Moines Symphony, and continue to have opportunities to perform in master-class settings with world-class musicians each year.

Our music faculty is eager to meet with you and hear you perform. We are committed to sharing our knowledge, expertise, and insights with you. We pride



ourselves on being more than just your teachers; we are your advisors and mentors. We will assist you as you develop into the musician that you want to become!

To get a sense of the music offerings on our campus, I encourage you to visit our Recital Schedule. The music department sponsors more than 100 on-campus performances each year. If you happen to be in the area during any of these events, we invite you to join us for what I'm sure that you will find to be an outstanding concert! cont., p 2

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### distinctlyDrake Campaign and Yamaha Corporation of America

"The partnership with Yamaha and selection of Nicholas Roth as a Yamaha Artist in Education demonstrates our clear commitment to providing our students with an exceptional learning environ-

ment and the recognition of the superlative quality of our faculty," said Joe Lenz, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Individuals or businesses interested in helping to

fund the purchase of new pianos should contact Doug Lampe, major gift officer for the College of Arts and Sciences, at 515-271-3055 or email [doug.lampe@drake.edu](mailto:doug.lampe@drake.edu).

## Drake Choirs Join Des Moines

### Symphony, Perform at ACDA, Release CD

Ensembles in the Drake music department are making waves far and wide. The choirs toured Ireland and collaborated with composers and poets to premier compositions. Both the Drake Choir and Wind Symphony have recently released CDs. Drake opera performs from masterworks and a 2006 work by Ned Rorem. The trombone choir makes its national debut at the Eastern Trombone Workshop sponsored by the U.S. Army Band at Fort Meyer, VA.

In celebration of its 75<sup>th</sup> season, the Des Moines Symphony will collaborate with all four Drake choirs, members of the Drake Symphony Orchestra, and professor Clarence Padilla will solo in "Celebrating All Things Drake!" April 13 and 14. The choirs will join the Des Moines Symphony performing Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, members of the Drake Symphony Orchestra will join the Des Moines Symphony in Johannes Brahms's *Academic Festival Orchestra*, and Clarence Padilla will join Greg Oakes for the Franz *Krommer Concerto for Two Clarinets and Orchestra in E-flat Major*.

The 2011-12 academic year was the biggest ever for the Drake choral program, with unique concert opportunities, collaborations with the Des Moines Symphony as well as leading American composers and poets, regional and international tours, the release of a new CD, premieres of three commissioned works, and a performance for the conference of the American Choral Directors Association North Central Division conference. Highlights from 2012:

In mid-February, Drake's Chamber Choir performed for the American Choral Directors Association North Central Division conference at the Overture Center for the Performing Arts in Madison, WI. Chosen from over 90 choruses who auditioned for this honor

the Chamber Choir was one of 14 ensembles selected and the only one that received a standing ovation from the almost 2000 conference attendees.



Over 60 Drake Choir alumnae returned to campus for a reunion in February. Alumnae rehearsed with the current ensemble and performed with them at the benefit concert, which raised funds for the May 2012 tour of Ireland and Wales, the ninth international tour of the Drake choral program..

In March, the Drake Choir and Chamber Choir toured to Grinnell and Winona, Colledgeville, and the Twin Cities, singing for enthusiastic

audiences and connecting with many alumni along the way.

One of the most transformational learning experiences of the year was the "Words for Music" project, which focused on the relationship between text and music.

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## Chair's Message

Drake Music offers attractive scholarship packages for music majors, minors, and ensemble participants. If you haven't done so already, I encourage you to click on the [Contact Us](#) link and complete the provided form. Once received, the music department will send you a packet of general information about us plus any specific items that you request.

Auditions for admission and scholarship consideration should be completed by March 8. Video submissions can be made using Acceptd (<http://getacceptd.com/for-students>). For more information on scheduling an audition, visit our [Audition Days](#) link on the Department of Music webpage. You may contact the Music Department office at 1-800-44-DRAKE ext. 3975, or

(515) 271-3975. You can also e-mail the department via the [Contact Us](#) link. I encourage you to spend a day with us, taking or observing a lesson, sitting in on classes and ensemble rehearsals, having lunch with students, and absorbing our campus climate!

Best wishes! We look forward to seeing you on our campus!

## Drake Band Tours, Conferences, CDs



The Drake University Wind Symphony had an exciting and productive 2011-2012 concert season. The band gave an invited performance for the College Band Directors National Association

### Drake University Wind Symphony

North Central Division Conference, held at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, MI on February 24, 2012. The concert highlighted the talents of Drake Professor of Clarinet, Clarence Padilla performing Dana Wilson's *Liquid Ebony*, and the world premiere of the wind band version of Mark Engebretson's *Dou Concertante*, featuring Drake Asso-

ciate Professor of Saxophone, James Romain, and Susan Fancher. Drake was part of a consortium that commissioned the band version of *Duo*. The Wind Symphony, one of seven bands selected to perform from throughout the CBDNA North Central Division, shared the stage with Michigan State University, Ohio University, Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan, Wayne State and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee during cont., p 4

## String Orchestra and Chamber Groups in Minnesota and Missouri

In spring 2012, the Drake String Ensemble toured the Twin Cities. The ensemble performed Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* with Dr. Sarah Plum as soloist and director. Performances were held at a branch location of the Hennepin County Library system in Minneapolis as well as at the St. Paul Central Library. Both concerts played to full houses.



**Dr. Sarah Plum performs Vivaldi with the Drake String Ensemble**

While in Minneapolis, the string ensemble also attended a concert by the Minnesota Orchestra; Akira Mori arranged for a backstage meeting with Maestro Osmo Vanska, which was a highlight for the students.

Two of the chamber ensembles with in the strings area gave a recital tour in Missouri in March. The cont., p 4

## Opera Brings Donizetti, Rorem to Life

In 2012, Drake University Opera Theater presented performances of Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love* directed by Dr. Ann Cravero and accompanied by the Drake University Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Akira Mori. The lead roles in the opera were sung by up and coming student performers such as

Gabrielle Sarcone, Eric Ferring, Jacob Fross, Katie Galliant, and Patrick Carroll. The Opera received publicity in the Des Moines Register, and established a *Facebook* page that is gaining popularity among the community.

The 2013 season will include performances of Ned

Rorem's new work, *Our Town*. This opera based on the play by American playwright Thornton Wilder is sure to appeal to the hearts of all Iowans whether native or assumed. The Drake Opera Theater is thrilled to once again have Andrew Ryker, artist of voice at Drake University, cont., p 16



Drake students with Osmo Vanska

“The band’s performance, featuring works by Freer, Puckett, Wilson, Grainger, Sousa and Mackey, was met at its conclusion by a three curtain-call standing ovation by members of the association.”

## Trombone Choir 1st Collegiate Choir Scheduled for Eastern Trombone Workshop

The Drake Trombone Choir will be performing at the 2013 Eastern Trombone Workshop (ETW) at Ft. Myer, VA. The ETW is the largest annual gathering of trombonists in the United States. Sponsored by the U.S. Army Band, the workshop attracts world-renowned trombonists as well as the finest collegiate trombone choirs in the country. The Drake Trombone Choir will be the first Iowa collegiate

trombone choir to perform at the 30-year old event. Prior to this event, Dr. McGrannahan and the Drake Trombone Choir will be touring to various high schools in Chicago and Fairfax County, VA.

The ensemble's repertoire will include all new works for the trombone choir medium. In addition to Drake trombonists, the group will be

performing with Drake percussionists and pianist to undertake new directions of color for the medium. Drake Professor of composition, William Dougherty, will be writing a new work specifically for the Drake Trombone Choir. The group will also be performing an original work by Northwest area music educator, Lewis Norfleet as well as arrangements by McGrannahan.

## Band Conferences and CDs

the conference. This was the Wind Symphony's third invitation to perform for CBDNA since 2000.

In May, the Wind Symphony was the featured ensemble for the 2012 Iowa Bandmasters Association

Conference. The band's performance, featuring works by Freer, Puckett, Wilson, Grainger, Sousa and Mackey, was met at its conclusion by a three curtain-call standing ovation by members of the association. The Wind Sympho-

ny also released its sixth compact disc, entitled *Windscaapes* through Mark Custom Recording. Beginning in 2012, all Wind Symphony recordings are available through Naxos and iTunes.

## String Chamber Groups Tour Missouri

The ensembles, led by cello professor Ashley Sidon, performed in a variety of venues, including concert halls, chamber music series, high schools, and a house concert (traditional performance venue of chamber music in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries). Music performed included both traditional quartets like

Brahms's beloved C minor as well as arrangements of quartets and of cello solos with quartet accompaniment. Professor Sidon performed the solos with the quartets. The students attended a St. Louis Symphony Orchestra concert and had the opportunity to discuss what it is like to be in a

professional orchestra with several members of the cello, violin, and viola sections. This tour was an excellent opportunity for Drake students to hear a top tier orchestra and meet the musicians, as well as give professional performances themselves.

## Drake Choir Collaboration and CD

The conclusion of the project, in mid-April, brought renowned composers Stephen Paulus, David Dickau, and John Armstrong, along with poets Michael Dennis Browne and Charles Anthony Silvestri, to campus for a weekend of rehearsals, panel discussions, and sessions in which Drake singers gained insight into the collaboration between composers and poets, the thought processes of both, and the role of performers, composers, poets, and audience members in musical communication. The performance itself featured the premiere of two pieces that featured a unique collaboration among the two poets and composer John Armstrong. Armstrong created



the musical framework first, with Browne and Silvestri working to fill that “container” with their words. Browne’s words were set as a ballad for choir and piano. Silvestri’s text led to the composition of a choral madrigal. Both pieces had the same melody and counter-melody, identical bass lines and harmonies, with subtle variations to suit each style and the two very different ensembles – Drake Chamber Choir; Drake University/Community Chorus – that premiered them.

The Drake Choir and Chamber Choir toured Ireland and Wales in May, singing in such notable venues as Trinity College Chapel and St. Patrick’s Cathedral (Dublin), St. Mary’s Church (Killarney), and St. Nicholas Cathedral (Galway City), as well as collaborating with two Welsh men’s choruses. Plans are now underway for

**Paulus, Dickau, Armstrong, Browne, and Silvestri**

the Chamber Choir’s tour to England, which will take place in January 2014..



### Drake Choir-Holy Trinity in Dublin, Ireland

*Effortlessly*, a CD featuring the Drake Choir and Chamber Choir, was released in September and is available by contacting Aimee Beckmann-Collier, Director of Choral Studies, at [aimee.beckmann-collier@drake.edu](mailto:aimee.beckmann-collier@drake.edu).

The 2013 Drake Choir/ Chamber Choir regional tour will take the ensembles to Omaha and Lincoln, NE, as well as Fort Collins and Denver, CO in March .

“One of the most transformational learning experiences of the year was the “Words for Music” project, which focused on the relationship between text and music.”

## Alumni Reunion for Bands Honors Marcouiller

The Drake Bands held their first-ever alumni reunion on October 5-6, 2012. The reunion saw the return to campus of more than 100 band alumni dating from the 1950’s through recent graduates. The event featured performances by members of the Alumni Band and the Drake University Marching Band

during the football game versus the University of San Diego on October 6, as well as receptions and a pre-game breakfast. The culminating event of the reunion was a tribute, honoring Don Marcouiller, Drake Director of Bands from 1956 – 1986. The excitement created by the event, and the shared

desire of alumni and Drake to create a lasting legacy to honor Don’s contributions to the development of the Drake Bands, has led to the formation of the Don Marcouiller Endowment Fund of Band Excellence. Please contact Robert Meunier if you are interested in the development of this endowment.



Maggie Sanabria  
with Jeremy Denk

Drake students at participate extensively in concerts, competitions, and master classes with internationally acclaimed artists at school, statewide, nationally, and internationally, including festivals in New York City, Belgium, and Italy.

## Concerts, Master Classes with Internationally Renowned Artists

In March 2012, Drake piano students took part in a unique collaboration involving students and faculty of Drake University and the University of Iowa featuring opera paraphrases by Franz Liszt in celebration of the centenary of Richard Wagner and Giuseppe Verdi. The concert, *Celebrating Liszt, Wagner & Verdi*, is presented under the auspices of the American Liszt Society Iowa Chapter. Last fall, Drake piano students Brian Kalina and Michael Buege performed *China West Suite for Two Pianos* by Yi, Chen in a master class & concert for Jinlan Cui, piano professor at Music College of Minzu University, Beijing.

Drake students also performed in the *Summer-Music Chamber Music Concert Series* with Bruce Brubaker, artistic director. Additional highlights included the master classes of internationally acclaimed pianist Jeremy

Denk and the Strung Out Trio.

On Oct. 8, 2012 Drake University hosted a unique concert with support of the Edwin Earle Ferguson fund featuring internationally acclaimed violinist Pamela Frank leading a string sextet with artists Alexander Simionescu on violin, Dmitri Murrath and Nokuthula Ngwenyama on viola, and Peter Wiley and Edward Arron on cello. They gave an incredible performance to a packed Sheslow auditorium. The audience was treated to the best of chamber music – timeless repertoire, artistically played. The string residency continued the next day with master classes in which students of doctors Sidon and Plum performed for Pamela Frank and Peter Wiley. It was a wonderfully learning opportunity for our students, prospective students, area teachers, high school students and mu-

sic lovers who were thrilled to hear these great artists in action, as well as all of the local teachers, high school students and area faculty and patrons that attended.

In July, Dana Slotter and Kristi Hanno attended the Belgian Clarinet Academy in Oostenede. They participated in a master class with Bob Spring and Jana Starling at last spring's Iowa Clarinet Day.

Kristin Madison participated in a master class with the renowned William Bennett at Iowa Flute Fest March 2012,



Kristin Madison and  
William Bennett

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## Concerto/Aria Winners 2012-13

### Performance March 6, 2013

Kristi Hanno, clarinet - student of Clarence Padilla

Sarah Thune, piano – student of Nicholas Roth

### Performance May 7, 2013

Eric Ferring, tenor – student of Leanne Freeman-Miller

Tiberius Quartet, Katelyn Stessman, Devin VanHolsteijn, Kyle Glavanovits, Carliann Connor, saxophones – stu-

## Students: Professionals and Festival Musicians

Congratulations to Kathryn Tarko on winning positions with Orchestra Iowa and the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra. Kat is a student of Ashley Sidon.

Ottavio in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and Anthony in Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*. Ferring also performed with the Cedar Rapids Opera Company in January 2012.

Five Flags Center, Dubuque, Iowa.

Lauren Shun, mezzo-soprano and Molly Schunicht, soprano, performed roles in the International Lyric Academy's main stage production of Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* in Viterbo, Italy in July. Schunicht also performed with the Cedar Rapids Opera Company in January. Maura Grace, soprano, participated in the Concert Program at the International Lyric Academy in Viterbo, Italy.

Eric Ferring, tenor, was selected to be a returning Young Artist for Seagle Music Colony in New York last summer. Eric received the prestigious Lisa Reid Scholarship, and which allowed him to attend for no cost. Eric performed the roles of Don

### Summer 2012 Programs

Napoleon Douglas, bass-baritone, was selected as first alternate for the Young Artist Program at Seagle Music Colony in New York. Douglas also performed the role of "Seaweed" in the production of *Hairspray* at the

## MTNA 2012 Competition

The state division of the Music Teachers National Conference Competition was held in October at the University of Northern Iowa. Drake

students who placed in the Young Artist Division were Eric Ferring, tenor, student of Leanne Freeman-Miller—Alternate; and Gabrielle

Sarcone, soprano, student of Christine Blanner—Honorable Mention.

## Honors Recital Competition Winners

The annual Drake Honors Recital Competition was held Fall 2012; winners performed February 22, 2013, the evening of the second music auditions. The winners are listed below:

Eric Ferring, tenor – student of Leanne Freeman-Miller

Patti McGowan, cello and Kristi Hanno, clarinet – students of Ashley Sidon and Clarence Padilla

Madeline Judge, soprano – student of Christine Blanner

Ruben Kebede, violin – student of Sarah Plum

Katie Galliard, soprano – student of Ann Cravero

Kenton Jordan, tenor – student of Edward Corpus

Tiberius Quartet, Katelyn Stessman, Devin VanHolsteijn, Kyle Glavonovits, Carliann Connor, saxophones – students of James Romain

Sarah Thune – student of Nicholas Roth

Bryan Hummel, percussion – student of Robert Meunier

The National Association of Teachers and Singers state competition was held November 2-3 at Simpson College. Drake students who won and placed are listed to the right:

## Iowa NATS State Winners

### ***First Year Women***

|                           |                       |                                  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jenny Bjoin, soprano      | 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | student of Ann Cravero           |
| Taylor Donaldson, soprano | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | student of Leanne Freeman-Miller |

### ***First Year Men***

|                              |                       |                                  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sean Galligan, bass-baritone | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | student of Leanne Freeman-Miller |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|

### ***Sophomore Women***

|                          |                       |                                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chelsea Dubczak, soprano | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | student of Leanne Freeman-Miller |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|

### ***Junior Women***

|                        |                       |                         |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Katie Hahn, soprano    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | student of Andrew Ryker |
| Kara Morgan, mezzo-sop | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | student of Andrew Ryker |

### ***Junior Men***

|                     |                       |                                  |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Eric Ferring, tenor | 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | student of Leanne Freeman-Miller |
| Joey Spivey, tenor  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | student of Leanne Freeman-Miller |

### ***Senior Women***

|                         |                       |                              |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Gabrielle Sarcone       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | student of Christine Blanner |
| Madeline Judge, soprano | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | student of Christine Blanner |

### ***Semi-Finalists***

Rudy Kammel, Amanda Lauritsen, Elizabeth Pilkington, Kristin Hansen, Molly Schunicht, Jacob Fross, Bryn Start, Christopher Hartung, Kent Reynolds, Maura Gillespie, Lindsey Clegg, Nick Budden, Kristofer Thornton, Miranda Luze, Danielle Peters, Hilary Kirsch, Sophie Kopf, Mary Craven, Megan Jensen

### ***Honorable Mentions***

Kenton Jordan, Anne Rueve, Katie Gallart, Maura Grace



## Drake Music Faculty News

The Drake Department of Music faculty members have been active locally, nationally, and globally this past year. They have held important elected offices in the region, such as president of the North Central Division of American Choral Directors and governor of Iowa NATS. They have had scheduled performances and paper presentations all over the U.S. and the globe, including China, Italy, Scotland, Ireland, Ukraine, and Russia. Drake faculty have been in demand as soloists with the St. Petersburg, Butte, and Des Moines Symphony Orchestras; they have produced solo and chamber recordings, and premiered works for flute, organ, as well as saxophone soloists with band. Drake scholars have contributed to books and published articles in major music journals. The well-rounded activity from music department has engaged Drake with various schools and performing organizations across the globe.

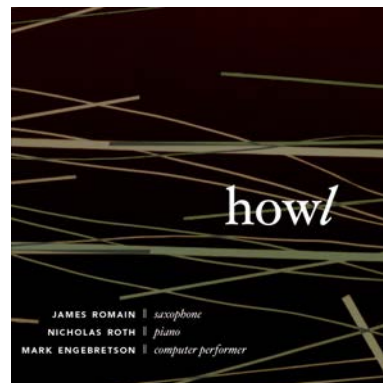
**Aimee Beckmann-Collier** Director of Choral Studies, has just completed a term as president of the North Central Division of the American Choral Directors Association and will now serve the organization as vice-president through June 2014. During her term, she was a member of ACDA's national board and chaired NC ACDA's conference, "Beyond the Notes," which brought almost 2000 choral specialists to Madison, WI for four days of concerts and reading and interest sessions. In May 2012 she conducted Drake's two most select choral ensembles in a 12-day tour of Ireland and Wales. She served as a guest conductor for several high school festivals and will ad-

judicate the Indiana Music Association's state choral festival in May 2013.

Associate Professor of Voice, **Dr. Ann Cravero** continued an active performing schedule in 2012, including solo engagements with the Lyric Symphony Orchestra in California, soloist for Bach's *Weinacht's Oratorium* with the Peoria Bach Festival in Illinois, and mezzo-soprano soloist for repeat performances of Handel's *Messiah* with the Des Moines Community Orchestra and with faculty at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. Upcoming performances include recitals at Drake and St. Thomas University in St. Paul, Minnesota with baritone Dr. Joseph Reed. Dr. Cravero will also be music director for the Tony-Award winning musical, *Next To Normal*, directed by Associate Professor of Theater, Deena Conley at Theater Des Moines On Stage. Six of her students were semi-finalists in the 2012 State National Association of Teachers of Singing Auditions, and five of the six placed as finalists in their division.

**William P. Dougherty**, Ellis and Nelle Levitt Professor of Music Theory and Composition has published two articles: "Cycling Song: The *Wilhelm Meister* Collections" in *Musical Semiotics: A Network of Significations in Honor and Memory of Raymond Monelle*, and "Signs in Song: A Peircean Analysis of a Schubert Lied" in *Semiotics 2011*. He has two articles currently in press. In August, he presented "Rubinstein's *Mélange: A Wilhelm Meister Cycle*" at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. His *Howl* for alto saxophone and

sound modules was released on a CD by Drake faculty member James Romain.



**Leanne Freeman-Miller** Associate Professor of Voice, traveled to Beijing, China with colleague, Rika Uchida, in May, 2012, as part of a faculty exchange program between Drake University and Minzu University music departments. In addition to performing a recital, she conducted a voice master class, taught lessons, visited with students, and observed teaching of voice, traditional and modern instruments. Prior, in April, 2012, Drake hosted two faculty members from Minzu University, Cui Jinlan, piano and Lin Jing, soprano. Both faculty members presented a recital, master class, and observed ensembles and lessons. The exchange was made possible from grants from the Drake Chinese Exchange Program, Provost Faculty Development Fund, A&S funds, and a grant from the Iowa Arts Council.

Freeman-Miller also served on the voice faculty of the International Lyric Academy in Viterbo, Italy for two weeks in July. ILA hosts singers, musicians, and faculty members from all over the cont., p 10

## Drake Music Faculty

Voice students as well as a string quartet had the opportunity to coach individually with the Maestro. Freeman-Miller and colleague Ashley Sidon, Associate Professor of Cello, will hosted Vignati for a week at Drake .

world for its summer festival. In addition to teaching private lessons, she conducted several master classes, organized recitals, and accompanied singers in performances. She also assisted students with preparation of their opera roles for several productions ILA performed at the festival. The festival's director is Maestro Stefano Vignati. She has been invited back to teach at ILA next summer.

Freeman-Miller hosted Maestro Stefano Vignati at Drake in May. Voice students as well as a string quartet had the opportunity to coach individually with the Maestro. She and colleague, Ashley Sidon, Associate Professor of Cello, will host Vignati for a week at Drake in February, giving instrumental and voice students an opportunity to work the maestro intimately in coaching sessions, master classes, Italian diction class, as well as other activities.

Freeman-Miller remains an active performer, clinician and adjudicator, in addition to her teaching and service responsibilities at Drake. She currently serves as the Arts and Sciences liason on the university's GIPAC committee (Global and International Programs Action Council), served

as chair of the Asian Concentration Task Force committee last year, completed a two-year position on faculty senate, and is currently the Governor of the Iowa NATS Chapter.

**Ruth Harris**, Instructor of Organ, performed the world premiere of *Awake and Sing* by Minnesota composer Katherine Bergman on an organ recital at Grace Lutheran Church in Des Moines Aug. 19th. The work was commissioned in honor of Des Moines organist Marvin Johns on his 90th birthday.

**Dr. Graydon McGrannahan**, Assistant Professor of Low Brass/ Assistant Director of Bands, was the featured brass artist at the Royal Irish Academy of Music during their annual "Brass Day" celebration in February. The event entailed a solo performance with RIAM faculty member, Orla McDonagh, in addition to low brass master classes and large instrumental rehearsals. While in Dublin, Dr. McGrannahan also presented a discussion on instrumental teaching techniques for Irish music educators.

**Leslie Marrs**, Associate Professor of Flute, premiered *Night Owls* by Matthew Quayle for flute and alto flute with Dúo Pelliroja partner Nancy

Schneeloch-Bingham at the Iowa Flute Fest last March. The flute duo also performed the work on subsequent recitals at Luther College in Decorah, IA and University of Nebraska-Omaha, where they also conducted master classes. Marrs and guitarist Robert Trent



presented a concert of works by Robert Fruehwald, Astor Piazzolla, Mauro Giuliani, David Leisner, and Robert Beaser as part of the Chamber Music at Salisbury House series in November. On the heels of this performance, she also participated in the master class "The Future of Flute" with Camilla Hoytenga in New York City. She teaches at New England Camp in Sidney, ME during the summer months.

**Robert Meunier**, Director of Bands/Professor of Percussion, was a guest conductor at the Kansas State Concert Band Clinic held in Manhattan, Kansas in January, gave solo percussion performances in Shijiazhuang and Tianjin, China in June, and appeared as a

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guest artist/clinician for the Johnny Pacheco Latin and Jazz Music Festival held at Lehman College in Bronx, NY in November. Along with the Drake University Wind Symphony, Meunier released a new compact disc, entitled *Windscares* (Mark Custom Recording), and conducted invited appearances of the band at the College Band Directors National Association North Central Division Conference, held in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan in February, and at the Iowa Bandmasters Association Conference held in Des Moines in May. Meunier continues an active schedule as a guest conductor, clinician and adjudicator throughout the United States, and as a member of the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra.

In May 2012, **Akira Mori**, Assistant Professor, Director of Orchestral Studies, conducted Bruckner's *Symphony No. 3* and Mozart's *Symphony No. 40* with the Denepetrovsk State Orchestra in Ukraine. He will return there in January to conduct Puccini's *La Boheme*.

Professor Mori was recently appointed the new conductor of Fort Dodge Area Symphony (FDAS). The orchestra's first concert was in October and featured Michael Gast, principal French horn player of Minnesota Orchestra, as the guest soloist on Richard Strauss' *Horn Concerto No. 1*. Mr.

Gast also led a master class for Drake University. The next concert of FDAS will be Handel's *Messiah* – a sing-along that will include guest soloists and the public as the chorus – in early December.

**Clarence Padilla**, Professor of Clarinet, was on sabbatical leave for the fall 2012 semester. During this time, Padilla recorded and produced his third compact disc recording to be released in fall 2013. The recording will feature the music of William Dougherty, Dana Wilson and Jeffrey Agrell. In addition, Drake colleagues Nicholas Roth, Ashley Sidon, Robert Meunier and Leslie Marrs participated on the recording project. Padilla maintains an active schedule as a soloist, chamber and symphonic musician. In February 2012, Padilla was a featured clarinet soloist with the Drake University Wind Symphony at Central Michigan University for the College Band Directors National Association North Central Regional Conference. Clarence Padilla continues his tenure as second clarinetist for the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra and original member of the Polaris Wind Quintet. In 2012, Padilla performed for the national tour of *West Side Story* at the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines. He is in demand as a clarinet clinician/adjudicator and is the Personnel Manager for the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra.

This coming April, Clarence Padilla and Gregory Oakes (Principal Clarinet – DMSO) will perform Franz Krommer's *Concerto for 2 Clarinets and Orchestra, op. 91* with the Des Moines Symphony. Padilla serves as

the Conductor and Music Director for the Des Moines Metro Concert Band. The professional ensemble presents several outdoor concerts at the Iowa State Capitol during the summer months.

**James Romain**, Associate Professor of Saxophone/Assistant Director of Jazz Studies, was invited to perform at the biennial national conference of the North American Saxophone Alliance in Tempe, AZ (March 2012). At NASA, Romain, appearing as baritone saxophonist with the Xplorium Ensemble (four saxophonists, five percussionists, and two pianists), was accepted to perform



James Romain, middle row, 2nd from R, with Xplorium

on a featured evening concert, and the ensemble gave a full hour lecture/recital presentation.

At the 16<sup>th</sup> World Saxophone Congress in July in Edinburgh, Scotland, Oasis Quartet, in which Romain also plays baritone saxophone, appeared to a standing-room-only crowd. In November, Romain appeared in concert with the Oasis Quartet in St. Louis for concerts at Saxquest and at the University of Missouri – St. Louis.

Also at WSCXVI, Romain gave the European premieres of two new works written for the New

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## Drake Music Faculty

Third Stream Quartet, a jazz saxophone quartet.

In February of 2012, Prof. Romain appeared with the Drake University Wind Symphony as concerto soloist, along with Dr. Susan Fancher, at the North Central Division Conference of the College Band Directors National Association.

They gave the premiere of the wind band version of Mark Engrebretson's *Duo Concertante*. In May, Romain also appeared with the Minnesota Orchestra, conducted by Carlo Rizzi, performing tenor saxophone on Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*.

In July, Romain released *Howl*, his second compact-disc recording, on Innova Records, the label of the American Composers Forum, featuring pianist Nicholas Roth and composer William Dougherty. Dr. Romain traveled to the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music in October for a recording session and concert with the New Third Stream Quartet. While at CCM, he also presented a performance and master class for the CCM saxophone studio.

**Nicholas Roth**, Associate Professor of Piano and Yamaha Artist in Education, joined fellow Yamaha Artists in Education James Giles, Anthony Molinaro, Lynne

Arriale and Per Danielsson in a gala concert at Yamaha Artist Services in New York City in December 2011. In November, Roth presented the *Keys to Excellence* piano concert celebrating the arrival of the YAMAHA CFX concert grand piano to Drake University. This concert event also celebrated Drake University's *Keys to Excellence* fundraising initiative, a priority of the *distinctlyDrake* campaign designed to enhance the University's music program by replacing 68 well-used pianos with brand new Yamaha grands and uprights. West Music Company and Yamaha Corporation of America have partnered to help present this concert and support Drake in its efforts to provide students the best possible learning experience. Roth was a guest instructor and clinician at the 2012 Goshen College Piano Workshop and performed in the *Iowa All-Stars Concert* at the Iowa Music Teachers Association 2012 State Conference. For the *International Beethoven Project – Beethoven Festival 2012: Prometheus and Revolution* in Chicago, Roth performed the "Funeral March" and "Pathétique" Sonatas in recognition of 9/11. He also participated in several concerts honoring the birthdays of Philip Glass and John Cage

throughout the year. In 2013, Roth will perform solo recitals at Georgia State University and Truman State University, where he will serve as guest artist for the 30th Annual Truman Piano Festival. He is also scheduled to adjudicate and present for numerous MTNA events.

**Dr. Eric Saylor**, Associate Professor of Musicology and Music history was on sabbatical during the 2011-12 academic year, during which time he accomplished a considerable amount of research. The essay collection *Blackness in Opera*, which he co-edited and contributed an essay on Frederick Delius's opera *Koanga*, was published this past spring by the University of Illinois Press. He also had an article on Ralph Vaughan Williams's Eighth Symphony published in *The Musical Times*, as well as two book reviews in the journal *Music and Letters*. In newer research, he presented a paper on two pieces by Charles Stanford and Ralph Vaughan Williams at meetings of the American Musicological Society's Midwest Chapter and the North American British Music Studies Association. He is also well underway on a monograph dealing with English

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For the  
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pastoral music of the early twentieth century.

**Ashley Sandor Sidon**, Briggs Endowed Professor of Cello, performed nationally and internationally during the 2012 season. Highlights included soloing the Saint-Saens Cello Concerto No. 1 with the Butte Symphony and the Fort Dodge symphony orchestra, performing solo and chamber music recitals in Italy as part of the Inter-Harmony International Music Festival, and playing chamber music with colleagues across Iowa through the Iowa Music Exchange concert tour series. Upcoming engagements include soloing with the Drake String Ensemble, and performing the Rorem cello concerto in St. Petersburg, Russia.

**Thomas Sletto**, Assistant Pro-

fessor of Music Education, presented a research project, "Effect of Four Models on Children's Pitch-Matching Accuracy," at the National Association for Music Education Biennial conference this past March 2012 in Saint Louis, MO. Professor Sletto was also chosen to be the keynote speaker on March 6 for the *Believers and Achievers Banquet* hosted by the Drake School of Education. He was honored to present an Outstanding Alumni Award to Patty Trump, music educator at Monroe Elementary in Des Moines. Trump has collaborated with Sletto to offer a Professional Development Partnership for novice teachers in the elementary music education area.

**Rika Uchida**, Associate Professor of Piano and Theory, visited

Minzu University, Beijing, China, with Professor Leanne Freeman-Miller in May – June 2012. In her 9-day-residence at Minzu, Uchida collaborated with Leanne Freeman-Miller in a recital, lectured on Claude Debussy, piano master class, and a guest studio teaching. In addition to performance and teaching, she led a discussion session with music theory faculty at Minzu, where she presented the aural skills teaching methods. The theory faculty requested all textbooks/materials used for teaching theory at Drake. They expressed sincere interests in visiting Drake Music Department in the future. In September, Uchida gave duo piano recitals with Mio Aoike (piano faculty at Eastern Oregon University) at Drake University and Simpson College.

## In Memoriam, Guy, Wuellner

Guy Wuellner, former Director of Keyboard Studies at Drake, passed away on November 2, 2012 from complications from surgery. Those who had the privilege to know Guy considered him a great colleague and a friend. He served on the piano faculty from 1965-2000.

*Taken from the  
Des Moines Register,  
November 16, 2012:*

Dr. Guy Wuellner, 79, was a wonderful Father and much loved "Poppy." Guy decided to pursue his passion, piano, and received his Bachelors of Music from De Paul University, Chicago, Illinois. He went on to earn

his Masters of Music at the University of Illinois and was finally challenged academically while earning his Doctor of Musical Arts from The University of Iowa. He was married in Alton, Illinois in 1964. In 1965 he accepted the Director of Keyboard Studies at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa; he also served as Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1989 to 1990. During the summer of 1968, he traveled Europe extensively, playing concerts in London, Vienna, Fontainebleau, and Amsterdam. In 1987, Dr. Wuellner was presented The Distinguished Alumni Award for achievements in his chosen field and services to

his fellow man. He was a member of the Music Teachers National Association and in 1987 was awarded the title of Master Teacher by the Iowa Music Teachers Association. Guy was a pioneer teaching the "Alexander Technique," regarded as one of the most formidable techniques for musicians to improve posture and quality of music. Guy accomplished many outstanding goals in his life. He influenced hundreds of students over the 35 years he taught at Drake University, many of whom have become teachers themselves, placing a permanent finger print in the world.

Hoag has presented at national and international music theory and analysis conferences throughout the US and western Europe, including Rome, Italy; Zagreb, Croatia; and Freiburg, Germany. Hoag is a founding member, editorial board of *Journal of Music Theory-Online*

## Drake Music Alumni News

Drake music alums have busy in traditional and innovative careers. Music theorists have not only published numerous articles, but serve as editor for *Music Theory Online* and as secretary for Music Theory Midwest. A Bandmaster who recently retired from the Iowa Army National Guard with accolades to spare continues to teach locally; many of our graduates teach in the Des Moines area and throughout the state of Iowa. A creative vocal alum is both singing professionally in San Francisco and directs a program for singers and yoga.

### 2000 - 2012

**Justin Williams MBA 2008, BA 2004** currently works at Submittal Exchange in West Des Moines, Iowa as Sales Force Administrator. Prior to working at Submittal Exchange, Justin worked at Nationwide Insurance for six years.

**Erik Lane BA Music Business 2004** is currently a law student at New York University.

**Jennifer (Chase) Williams BME 2002** is in her fourth year of teaching band at Saydel High School in Des Moines, Iowa. Jennifer earned her Masters in Music Education from Vander Cook College of Music in Chicago in 2010. Jennifer and her husband **Justin Wil-**

**iams BA 2004** (above) reside in Ankeny, Iowa.

### **Kirsten (Anthony) Trachsel BME**

**2001** served as Director of Bands, Boyd Independent School District in Texas from 2005-2007, following her position as Assistant Director of Bands in Boyd Independent School District 2003-2005. Prior to that time, she was Director of Christian Education and Handbell Choir Director, First Presbyterian Church, Athens, Ohio; and Assistant Director of Bands, Southeast Polk High School, 2001-2003. Kristen and **Andrew Trachsel BME1999** have a five-year-old son, Andersen, who is currently in Preschool and loves music!

**Melissa Hoag PPEP Piano Pedagogy 2000** is her in sixth year as Assistant Professor of Music Theory, serving as Music Theory Coordinator for undergraduate and graduate students at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. Melissa has had articles on voice leading and rhythm and meter in Brahms, as well as music theory pedagogy, published or forthcoming in a number of music theory journals: *Music Theory Online* (2011), *Gamut* (2011), *Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy-Online* (2012), *Dutch Journal of Music Theory* (2012), and *Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy*

(forthcoming 2013). She has presented at national and international music theory and analysis conferences throughout the US and western Europe, including Rome, Italy; Zagreb, Croatia; and Freiburg, Germany. Hoag is a founding member, editorial board of *Journal of Music Theory-Online* (<http://jmt.ou.edu/>), a website affiliated with the *Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy* featuring pedagogical resources for music theory teachers, including peer-reviewed articles and pedagogical content.

### 1990's

**Dr. Andrew Trachsel BME1999** was appointed as Director of Bands, Ohio University School of Music, in 2008. The Ohio University Wind Symphony performed at the College Band Directors National Association North Central Division Conference, hosted by Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan in February



**Andrew Trachsel**

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## Drake Music Alumni News

2012. The ensemble presented the world premiere performance of *Mothership* by Mason Bates, and just released their first commercial recording through Mark Records, titled *MOTHERSHIP* (MCD-50261). Composer Nancy Galbraith was in residency with the group in February 2013.

Upcoming highlights include the Ohio University Marching 110 touring Ireland and Italy in May 2013. Andrew earned his DMA – Conducting from University of North Texas in 2007 and MM in Performance and Conducting from University of North Texas in 2005. He is married to

**Kirsten (Anthony) Trachsel BME 2001.**

**Justin Montigne B.M. Vocal Performance 1999** is currently a singer, voice, and yoga teacher in San Francisco, California. He teaches for the San Francisco Girls Chorus, Young Women's Chorus, Piedmont Choirs, and privately. Justin has started SingAsana, his yoga for singers company, and travels presenting workshops on yoga, body awareness, and mindfulness for choral and solo singers.

Most recently, he presented for the Chorus America Symposium in San Francisco in 2011, and the Iowa Choral Directors Symposium in 2012. Justin is also a



Montigne  
with  
SingAsana

singer with and president of **Clerestory**, a professional male a cappella ensemble. Clerestory sang and gave a master class recently at the North Central ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) convention in Madison Wisconsin, and began its seventh season with a world premiere commissioned work—a song cycle on poems of Herman Melville by Eric Banks. Justin is an active countertenor soloist in the Bay Area and is a chairman with Grace Cathedral's choir of men and boys. He married his husband Joe in Des Moines in 2009, and they live happily, healthily, and musically with their two pooches, Jasmine and Jorge.

**Stanley Kleppinger BME 1995** was tenured and promoted to associate professor of music theory at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in August 2012. After serving for four years as secretary of Music Theory Midwest, he was recently elected to a four-year term as secretary of the Society for Music Theory. Stanley continues to publish and present research – most recently in the journal *Theory and Practice* – while teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in music theory at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is married to **Annie (Posekany) Kleppinger BME 1993.**

**Ryan Beeken, BME 1994**, is Director of Choral Studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He recently completed a doctorate at Michigan State University.

**Annie (Posekany) Kleppinger BME in 1993** completed her master's degree in education leadership at Indiana University in 2005. Since then, she's stepped away from her career in instrumental music education to be a full-time mom her children Ian, Max, Will, and Henry. She is married to **Stanley Kleppinger BME 1995.** Annie is active in the Lincoln Alumni/Patroness Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, and also serves as a field leader for Mothers of Preschoolers International.

**James Goodwin MME 1991** recently retired from being Bandmaster of the 34th Army Band of the Iowa Army National Guard. He served in the Regular Army during the Vietnam War Era as a saxophonist in the Army Materiel Command Headquarters Band at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland, and the United States Army Europe Headquarters Band in Heidelberg, Germany. In 1984 he moved to Iowa and joined the Iowa Army National Guard as part of the 34th Rear Area Operations Center in the Intelligence Section. In 1995 he attended the Reserve Warrant Officer Candidate Course and assumed command of the 34th Army Band that same year. He retired from the Army National Guard in January of 2010.

Mr. Goodwin has taught instrumental music in Michigan and Iowa. He also taught band and choir for the Department of Defense Schools in Frankfurt, Germany. He presently teaches at six schools in the Des Moines Public Schools District and serves as adjunct music faculty at Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny.

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Patrick Kearney is currently president of the Iowa Bandmasters Association. In 2011, Patrick was named Outstanding Educator for the Johnston Community Schools.

## Drake Music Alumni News

Mr. Goodwin is the Conductor of the Iowa Military Veterans Band. He is a member of the Runnells Post of the American Legion.

Mr. Goodwin is an accomplished musician and enjoys playing jazz, classical, and sacred music. He is also a composer/arranger and has written several pieces for band including *General Lawson's March*, *The Iowa National Guard March*, *Veterans Day Tribute*, and *Ballads of the Civil War*. Mr. Goodwin has been awarded the National Defense Medal with Second Award, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Iowa Commendation Medal (2<sup>nd</sup> Award), the Iowa National Guard Achievement Medal, the Iowa National Guard Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal, the CW4 Bruce Smith Superior Achievement Award (Warrant Officer of the Year), the Legion of Merit Award, and the Gover-

nor's X Patch for Superior Rifle Marksmanship. Under his leadership, the 34<sup>th</sup> Army Band was awarded the Eisenhower Trophy for Superior Service six times.

**Matthew Baumer BME1990** is currently a music history professor at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

**Patrick J. Kearney BME 1990** is the Director of Bands at Johnston High School, IA. He is also currently president of the Iowa Bandmasters Association. In 2011, Patrick was named Outstanding Educator for the Johnston Community Schools. In 2010, his high school jazz ensemble appeared at both the Inaugural Jazz Education Network conference in St. Louis and at the Iowa Bandmasters Association conference in Des Moines. He is married to **Cathy (Hecht) Kearney BME 1990** and they have a 14-year-old son, Brogan.

### 1970's

**Robert Parker BME 1975 Piano and Double Bass minor** currently resides in California, where he has worked in the field of technology telecommunications voice and data has for 30 years, as well as gigging in restaurants and clubs. After arriving in California, he played piano on the recording *Jackson Blues Jazz*. Prior to that he performed with Lee Mace's Ozark Opry in Osage, MO and ran a recording studio in Carlisle, IA.



**Robert Parker**

## Opera: Rorem

joining forces with Dr. Cravero. This season, Ryker will be making his debut with Drake Opera Theater as the sole stage director for *Our Town*. Performances will be Friday April 26 and Saturday April 27.

## Masterclasses

performing the Martinu *Sonata*. The Drake studio welcomed flutist John Bailey for a concert and master class in February 2012. Nancy Schneeloch-Bingham will conduct a traverso class and presentation on the history of this Baroque flute this coming March.



