



From the Director

Welcome to our April Newsletter! This past month has been packed with exciting events and honors for our students. The anticipation for our numerous Spring Recitals is right around the corner. Happy Spring!

~Cynthia Giunta, Director
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Student Accomplishments

Congratulations to the following students!

Eleanor Burton participated in the Victor Borge piano festival at the Salisbury House on Feb. 26th and received a superior rating. *(Kathy Gedler studio)*

Miles Huston and Emerson Palmer, saxophone, both received 2nd place overall in the 9th/10th grade division at the Perry Band Olympics. *(John Morgan Studio)*

Camryn Johnson was named one of the top five clarinet soloists in her center at Perry Band Olympics. She is a freshman. *(Dana Sloter Studio)*



Student Spotlight



Bryson Kinnan performed his high school senior recital on March 29th, 2023. He opened the program on piano with the Brahms Rhapsody, Op. 79. He wrote two pieces of his own. One for piano, titled "Soar" and one for Brass Quintet titled, "Fall of a Hero." After performing 2 Tuba Solos, he concluded the program on piano with Stars and Stripes, arranged by the famous Vladimir Horowitz. Congratulations Bryson on an outstanding senior recital! *(Bryson studies Tuba with Michael Short and piano with Cynthia Giunta).*

Faculty Spotlight!

Laura Erickson, a Des Moines native, received her Bachelor's Degree in Harp from the University of Northern Iowa. And her Master's Degree in Harp Performance from the University of Kansas.

Currently Laura is a harp instructor at Grinnell College as well as DUCSOM. Many of her students participate in DM Youth Symphony, Iowa All-State, and various honor festivals in the DM metro area.

In addition to teaching, she performs as a soloist as well as an ensemble player with various ensembles throughout the Midwest. Recently, she was a featured soloist with the DM Community Orchestra on Laura Zaerr's Celtic Concerto. One of her favorite performances to date was with the Electric Light Orchestra in Kansas City.



Upcoming Events:

John Morgan Saxophone Recital April 30, 2023
3pm Monroe Recital Hall

Kathy Gedler Piano Studio Recital
May 6, 2023 1pm
Turner Jazz Center

Cynthia Giunta Piano Studio Recital May 11, 2023 5:30pm
Turner Jazz Center

Casey Cerveny Voice Studio Recital
May 12, 2023 7:30pm
Monroe Recital Hall

Summer Voice Intensive
June 19-23, 2023



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