

notes

A newsletter of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Department of Music

No. 15 - Fall 2017

A Note from the Chair



Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I begin my second term as department chairperson and after 15 years as a member of the IUP music faculty, I continue to be thankful for this special place and the people in it. This annual newsletter, as well as our e-newsletter Accent, reports on department news, alumni updates, and upcoming events that will be a part of the 2017-2018 academic year. Although we would love to see you in person more often, we hope that you will be able to remain connected to us via the department's website and social media pages. We are excited to be able to offer live-streaming of most ensemble concerts as well as faculty solo and chamber recitals through the Department of Music YouTube channel!

I continue to be impressed with the

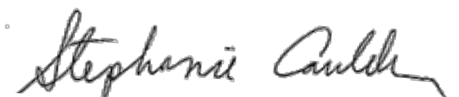
quality and productivity of our artist-faculty. They serve as tremendous mentors for our students. We are so proud of their many successes, which you will read about in the following pages. We are pleased to welcome new faculty members James Flowers (saxophone) and Leonardo Perez (violin/viola/orchestra) this year. In August, we will say goodbye to Irvin Kauffman, our guitar professor, who will retire after a long tenure in the Department of Music. The department wishes him a wonderful retirement and calm seas (on his terrific yacht)! I am grateful to our assistant chairs Zach Collins and Kevin Eisensmith who serve our department so well and have agreed to continue with me for a second term. Our department secretary Vickie Morganti and our Steinway technician, Dan Alberts, remain an integral and valued part of our administrative team as well.

There is some big news on the facility front, as we will soon be seeing some improvements to Gorell Recital Hall. I know many of you have very fond memories of the orange seats, so I am pleased to report that they will likely be staying! We will have, however, a new and sorely-needed lighting system as well as a beautiful acoustical shell. We are very grateful to the administration of the university for providing the funding necessary to make these updates in our primary performing space. As we did with the courtyard renovations a couple of years ago, we will post updates and pictures on our social media sites.

Finally, I want to thank you and tell you how much your gifts mean to us. Our administrators often remark on how active the music alumni are in providing financial support to the department

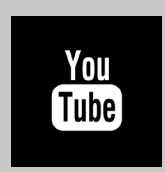
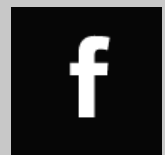
compared to many others on campus. Giving is important so that we can reward our accomplished students, remain competitive in recruitment, and provide a technologically current curriculum. In addition to alumni contributions, our current faculty, and former faculty, continue to donate. As I mentioned in the opening of my letter, this speaks powerfully to how important and special the Department of Music really is. Recent major gifts from the late alumnus Dr. Edward Sims, Faculty Emeritus James Staples, and alumni William G. Wagner and Diane Wynn Wagner will make a huge difference for the students in our department, but every gift is welcome and appreciated. Please consider contributing to one of our many giving opportunities on which you can find information on the department's website.

I wish you all health and happiness in the year to come and hope to see you back home again in Indiana soon!



Stephanie Caulder, chairperson

Connect with IUP Music



Department Notes

The IUP Department of Music is happy to welcome **Dr. Leonardo Perez** to the faculty. Dr. Perez is Assistant Professor of Violin and Viola, and conducts the IUP Symphony Orchestra.

Under the direction of **Dr. Ryan Beeken**, the **University Chorale** is enjoying tremendous success. In April of 2017, they were one of a few university choirs selected to perform for the Eastern NAFME divisional conference in Atlantic City, NJ.

This trajectory of recognition will continue throughout the 2017-18 academic year. On March 8, 2018 Chorale will present a 75-minute lecture-recital entitled "Together We Sing" for the American Choral Director's Eastern Division Conference in Pittsburgh. In addition, Chorale will perform a 40-minute concert session for the PMEA State Conference at 10:00 am on Friday April 20, 2018 in Lancaster. Finally on June 18-26, 2018, IUP singers will embark upon an international tour to Prague and Vienna.

The complete library of music composed and arranged by IUP alumnus and former faculty member **John Morris** was recently donated to the IUP Jazz Bands library. Ralph Morris, brother of John, presented Kevin Eisensmith, director of the IUP Jazz Ensemble, with over 200 works composed and arranged by John Morris, who graduated from IUP in January 1966 and who taught at IUP from 1978 until his death in 1987. Morris was the founder of the Johnstown Jazz Workshop. Until recently, many of his works were not cataloged and were unavailable for study and performance. Through the efforts of Mike Bodolosky, Dick Gardenhour '69, and others, Morris's music for big band has been reassembled and donated to the IUP Department of Music.

Last May, IUP's Director of Bands, **Dr. Timothy A. Paul**, submitted live unedited recordings from the IUP Wind Ensemble's performances at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Conference in Erie, PA (April 21) and the Spring Concert in Fisher

Auditorium (April 29) to the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) for consideration to perform at the 2018 Eastern Division Conference, which will be held at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Via a blind peer review process, the IUP Wind Ensemble was selected to perform, and the concert is scheduled for March 9, 2018 at 5:30. In the CBDNA Eastern Division, there are over two hundred CBDNA members, and

based on the audition process, the IUP Wind Ensemble is one of only five groups invited to perform at this prestigious conference. This is another accolade for our Music Department faculty and students for their continued dedication to pursuing the highest level of musicianship and performance.

The IUP Faculty Woodwind Quintet (**Therese Wacker**, flute; **Stephanie Caulder**, oboe; **Rosemary Engelstad**, clarinet; **Heidi Lucas**, horn; and **Jason Worzbyt**, bassoon) completed a tour of Williamsport and Scranton area schools on March 28-30, 2017. They performed and worked with students in nine sessions over their 2.5-day tour. Schools visited included Williamsport High School, Loyalsock Township High School, Lackawanna Trail High School, Montrose Area High School, and Mountain View Jr./Sr. High School.

IUP Department of Music faculty members, **Heidi Lucas** and **Zach Collins**, along with Nazareth College pianist Jacob Ertl toured Arizona on January 24-27, 2017. The horn, tuba, and piano trio, named Eastern Standard, performed at Arizona State University, University of Arizona, Phoenix College, and Rosie's House, an academy of music for underserved youth in Phoenix. Additionally, the ensemble performed at the Southwest Horn Workshop. In

September, Eastern Standard completed a tour of universities in the state of Tennessee. Following a performance at IUP, they performed at Heinz Chapel (Pittsburgh), East Tennessee State University, Tennessee Tech University, University of Tennessee at Martin, Middle Tennessee State University, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and Marshall University (West Virginia). The trio performed new compositions that the ensemble members have commissioned from composers across the globe. Two IUP faculty members, David Martynuik and professor emeritus Keith Young, had compositions performed on the tour.

A select group of nine students from the **IUP Horn Choir**, along with IUP horn professor **Dr. Heidi Lucas**, recently traveled to Hartford, Connecticut to attend and perform at the annual Northeast Horn Workshop. The horn choir presented five works by composers including Ingram, Brofsky, and Taylor. Freshman horn major **Andy Junttonen's** arrangement of a section from Mahler's Second Symphony was a highlight of the program.

The Carol Teti Memorial Organ Scholarship Committee hosted a recital by Ann Labounsky, internationally acclaimed organist, on March 26, 2017. Labounsky presented the world premiere of Christopher Adler's Construct: for organ (2016) in addition to works by Bach, Franck, Langlais, Mendelssohn, and Tournemire.

The Department of Music at IUP presented *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*, on Sunday, February 26, 2017 in Fisher Auditorium. The performance was given under the direction of IUP Director of Choral Studies **Ryan Beeken**, with the combined forces of the **IUP Choirs**, soloists and a specially assembled orchestra of faculty and guest artists. They were joined by several collaborators from across the community and campus. As part of the concert, **Craig Denison** conducted the Chamber Singers in an excerpt from Benjamin Britten's Spring Symphony, with **Maria Fenty Denison** as a soloist.



IUP Chorale



IUP Wind Ensemble

Department Notes

On March 4, 2017, members of the **IUP clarinet studio** and clarinet professor **Rosemary Engelstad** hosted the inaugural **Crimson SquawkFest**, a clarinet-centric event for visiting community members, graduates, middle school students, and high school students. The day included a masterclass with Pittsburgh-based clarinetist Amanda Morrison and featured IUP students **Catherine Kasun** and **Jenn Dibert**. Engelstad led a session that focused on mindfulness and developing the kinesthetic sense for music performance. Participants rehearsed as a mass clarinet choir and performed a culminating recital at the end of the day. Engelstad, Amanda Morrison, **David Martynuik**, and **Evan Engelstad** presented a faculty recital for the guests.

The **IUP Flute Studio** will be hosting the **Flute New Music Consortium's Flute Competition** on Saturday, March 3rd, 2018.

Zach Collins and the **IUP Tuba and Euphonium Studio** hosted the third annual **Tubaphonium Day** on Sunday, March 19, 2017. Tuba, euphonium, and baritone players of all ages were invited to join the IUP Tuba and Euphonium Studio for a day of performance and learning. The musicians participated in master classes, heard a recital by Collins and guest euphonium soloist Ross Cohen, and performed as part of a mass tuba-euphonium ensemble. **Tubaphonium Day** culminated in a concert that featured Collins and Cohen as soloists as well as the IUP Tubaphonium Ensemble and a 50-piece, mass tuba-euphonium ensemble comprised of all participants at Tubaphonium Day. Participants included students from 21 different schools as well as adult musicians. **2018 Tubaphonium Day** will be held on March 18, 2018.

Indiana Musicale, the Indiana Chapter of the PMTA/MTNA, hosted its fourth annual **Monster Piano Concert** event, with a record

43 participants and 22 pianos in DiCicco Hall. Later in the summer **Dr. Wong Doe** presented a workshop on **Monster Piano Concert** repertoire at the Pennsylvania Music Teacher's Conference at Lebanon Valley College, on June 9. IUP hosted the state-level MTNA competitions on November 5th, 2017 and will host the 2018 Annual Conference on June 8-10 2018.

The **HoodleBug Brass**, the faculty brass quintet in the IUP Department of Music, performed and taught at Easton Area High School on Saturday, December 10, 2016. The faculty members spent the day giving a mini-recital, master classes to brass instrumentalists, and rehearsing with the Easton Area High School Wind Ensemble. The day culminated with the **HoodleBug Brass** performing John Cheetham's **Concertino for Brass Quintet** and **Concert Band** with the EAHS Wind Ensemble in an evening concert.

The **Litton Quartet**, IUP's resident faculty quartet for six years, performed its final season during the 2016-2017 school year. The quartet featured Stanley and Swana Chepaitis, violins; Raul Fauré, viola; and Linda Jennings, cello. The quartet premiered new works by composers Stanley Chepaitis, Raymond Helble, Jack Stamp, Mike Barnett, and David Martynuik. They joined more experimental collaborations with jazz artists John Stowell and Nathan Santos, as well as performing a broad selection of the incredible literature for quartet, including works by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Dvorak, Smetana, Prokofiev, and Shostakovich. With the retirement of Dr. Stanley Chepaitis, a new faculty ensemble, the **Litton Piano Trio**, formed featuring Linda Jennings, cello, Sun Min Kim, piano and Leo Perez, violin. They performed their first concert in October 2017 featuring works by Haydn, Piazzolla, and Schoefield.

The **IUP String Project**, under the direction of Dr. Linda Jennings, continues its mission of providing quality string education for students in the area and mentoring future string educators. This year the IUP String Project begins a new partnership with the Chaing Rai Youth Orchestra (CYO) in northern Thailand. The CYO, led by Director Paramet Lerdkasem, is one of the leading

Spring 2018 Workshops and Festivals

Monster Piano Concert

February 3, 2018

IUP piano faculty members will direct a large piano ensemble rehearsal day and concert, also featuring the IUP Piano Ensemble. Open to pianists of all ages.

Tubaphonium Day

March 18, 2018

Tubaphonium Day is a chance for tuba, euphonium, and baritone players of all ages to join the IUP Tuba and Euphonium Studio for a day of performance and learning.

Squawkfest

April 7, 2018

IUP Squawkfest is an opportunity for participants to be a part of a large clarinet ensemble made up of students, alumni, community members, teachers, and faculty.

Day of Percussion

April 14, 2018

The IUP Day of Percussion is a day-long festival featuring high school percussion ensembles of all genres.

Trumpet Day

April 15, 2018

Events will include warm-up sessions, clinics, rehearsals, and an afternoon performance by all of the participants!

Cavalcade of Choirs

May 1, 2018

At the Cavalcade of Choirs, each ensemble will have the opportunity to perform for other high school singers in a noncompetitive format.

Horn Day

May 5, 2018

Comprised of activities geared towards horn players of all ages and abilities, there's something for everyone!

Department Notes

string youth programs in Thailand. Plans are under way for the IUP String Project to host 4-5 CYO students on the IUP campus where they will participate in String Project and IUP String Area events in April 2018. The CYO will host IUP faculty, and hopefully IUP students, in the summer of 2018 to work with the CYO students in workshops and concerts.

Faculty Notes

Joseph Baunoch, Associate Professor of Voice, was elected vice president of the Tri-States Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

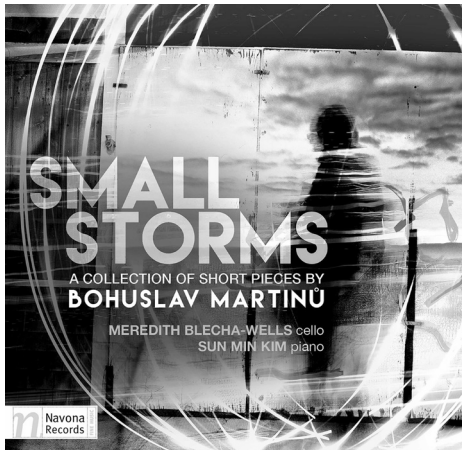
Director of Choral Studies, **Dr. Ryan Beeken**, had another busy year of scholarship, performance, and service! In addition to his on-campus engagements, Beeken conducted 7 festivals in Pennsylvania and New York. He also adjudicated for more than 11 choral festivals in Pennsylvania, Michigan, and New Jersey and served as a clinician for more than 20 schools across Pennsylvania and Maryland. Beeken was also invited to present sessions for 5 conferences, including the International Conference on Arts and Humanities in Hawaii and the National Conference for the National Association for Music Education in Grapevine, Texas. The IUP Chorale performed for the Eastern Division NAFME Conference in Atlantic City New Jersey; they were selected via a blind peer-reviewed process. Finally, Beeken was elected as the President-Elect for PMEA District 3.

Craig Denison's chapter on "Boychoir Pedagogy" was published in April 2017 in the Oxford Handbook of Choral Pedagogy by Oxford University Press. The book was dedicated to the memory of Robert Page, long-time director of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, and features the writing of 25 other leading choral pedagogues.

Kevin Eisensmith has been elected to serve as secretary of the International Trumpet Guild. Eisensmith previously served as secretary for two terms (2003–05 and 2005–07). He was vice president of ITG from 2007 to 2009 and served as president of the organization from 2009 to 2011. He received the ITG Award of Merit in 2014 for his service to the Guild.

Faculty Notes

Rosemary Engelstad, Assistant Professor of Clarinet, Evan Engelstad, Lecturer in Piano, and Laura McLaughlin, who teaches clarinet at University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, presented recitals on April 13–16, 2017, at Middle Tennessee State University, Austin Peay State University, and Centennial High School in Franklin, Tennessee. Rosemary Engelstad and McLaughlin established Duo LaRo in 2016, a clarinet duo committed to performing new works for two clarinets. Additionally, Engelstad and McLaughlin worked with students at APSU in a clarinet masterclass and performed and presented a workshop for high school students at Centennial High School. Rosemary Engelstad was also invited to present a lecture at the inaugural Chicago Clarinet Symposium at Northeastern Illinois University on May 13, 2017. The lecture, titled "Sound Health: Somatics in the Clarinet Studio," provided participants with teaching strategies that cultivate body awareness and mindful musicianship. She also served as clarinet faculty at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in summer 2017.

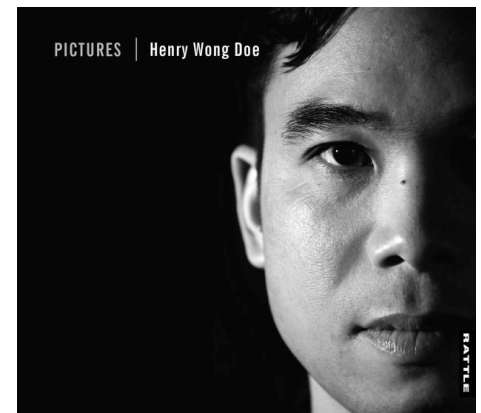


Sun Min Kim released his first commercial CD, *Small Storms*, with Meredith Blecha-Wells, Associate Professor of Cello at Oklahoma State University. This recording of cello and piano works by Bohuslav Martinu was released by Navona Records, and it enjoys international distribution by Naxos Records, a major recording label. Dr. Kim also completed a nine-week residency at the 2017 Aspen Music Festival.

IUP faculty member **Dr. Linda Jennings** led a cello master class and performed on a chamber recital with cellists Benjamin Whitcomb (cello professor at UW-Whitewater) and Miranda Wilson (cello

professor at University of Idaho) at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in November 2016. Dr. Jennings and IUP music majors Morgan Herrington and Josh Hudson led low string sectionals and co-presented a session on Low String Instrument Techniques for music educators at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Western Regional Orchestra Festival in Dubois, PA in March 2017. Dr. Jennings also presented a joint session with IUP String Project Master Teacher Swana Chepaitis on String Instrument Techniques at the Indiana Area School District In-Service Day in Indiana, PA in March 2017.

Therese Wacker will be performing the world premiere of Carter Pann's *Giantess* for flute and piano on March 3, 2018 at 4pm in Gorell Recital Hall. Carter Pann was chosen this years Flute New Music Consortium's commissioned composer and he will be in residence on the IUP campus March 2-3, 2018.



In April 2017 **Dr. Henry Wong Doe** recorded his fourth commercial album, *Pictures* featuring the works of Modest Mussorgsky and a newly commissioned work "A zigzagged gaze" by New Zealand composer Eve de Castro-Robinson. The album was released on the New Zealand label Rattle Records on August 15th, 2017. Dr. Wong Doe was awarded sabbatical leave for this project, which included premiere performances of de Castro-Robinson's work in New York City (March 2017, Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church), Auckland, New Zealand (April 2017, University of Auckland) and London, United Kingdom (May 2017, St. Martin-in-the-Fields). The project was funded by a grant from Creative New Zealand (Arts Council of New Zealand) and the Wallace Arts Trust.

Student Notes

In November 2016, voice students competed at the Tri-States Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing in West Virginia. **Ben Strong, Hannah Kauffmann, Kiya Jackson, Amber Leitsch, and Arlene Ivory** placed in the competition against students from Carnegie Mellon University, West Virginia University, Slippery Rock University, and Westminster College, among others.

Music education undergraduate student **Ryan Gross** presented his research at the International Trumpet Guild Annual Conference in Hershey in June 2017. His study on meanings of music in musicians with cancer diagnosis was also presented as a poster at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association annual conference in Erie this past March.

Hsin-Jou Lee, candidate for Bachelor of Fine Arts in Piano Performance and piano student of Henry Wong Doe and Sun Min Kim, won first prize at the Music Teachers National Association Pennsylvania State Young Artist Competition, held at West Chester University of Pennsylvania on November 6, 2016. Lee performed a program of Beethoven, Debussy, and Scriabin. She also performed at Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall in New York City on Saturday, December 17, 2016. The concert was presented by the American Protege International Piano and Strings Competition Foundation. Lee won the second prize in the competition in February 2016.

PMEA

April 19-21
Lancaster, PA

Performances

University Chorale
Friday, April 20, 10 AM

Clinics

[Linda Jennings](#)

Thursday, April 19, 3-4 PM

[Jason Worzby](#)

Thursday, April 19, 3-4 PM

[Ryan Beeken](#)

Friday, April 20, 2:30-3:30 PM

Alumni Reception

See Conference
Booklet

Eight IUP music students were selected to serve as counselors, residence assistants, and conductors for Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in summer 2016. Four students were selected to perform in the Festival Band, an ensemble comprised of advanced students and professional faculty.

Janet Song Kim, graduate wind band conducting student of Dr. Timothy A. Paul, was awarded a Conducting Fellowship to study and perform at UCLA during the week of June 25-29, 2017. As part of this five-day symposium, Ms. Kim had the opportunity to conduct for and work with Jerry F. Junkin, Director of Bands at the University of Texas and Artistic Director and Conductor of the Dallas Winds, and Travis J. Cross, Wind Ensemble Conductor at UCLA. In addition, Ms. Kim also participated in sessions on score study, programming, rehearsal techniques, and program building.

Library Notes

“Music Librarian on Sabbatical”

by Carl Rahkonen, Music Librarian

It is like the old joke: “Where did the librarian take his vacation? Why at the Library of Congress of course!” I have been on Sabbatical this fall and have been doing research on Finnish American musicians and that has meant going through lots of old archival materials, such as documents, music, and photographs. The work is similar to what I do each day in the Orendorff Music Library, except the topic is different. So far I have visited archives at Michigan State University, the University of Minnesota and at Finlandia University in Hancock, Michigan.

I am writing this currently from Turku, Finland, where I have been for two weeks studying materials at the Institute of Migration. It is a little counter intuitive to come to Finland to find out about Finnish American musicians, but there are Finnish scholars who have gathered more material and know more about the topic than we do. It has been a very rewarding and beneficial experience studying the materials of these musicians and I hope to be able to write something which honors them properly.

Alumni Notes

Patricia Rossi (BSEd 1956) is Director of Alle-Kiski Music Day Camp, which will celebrate its 26th year at a new venue: 1428 Broadview Blvd., Natrona Heights, PA. Other IUP graduates on the camp staff include Mercedes Wood Paul (Administrator), Elisa Hill (Teen Ensemble), Phil Swiklinski (Piano), and Chaz Shipman (Composition). Camp classes include Orff, Handbells, Piano/Composition, Teen Ensemble, Elementary Chorus, Band, Strings, Jazz Dance, Art, Drama, and our Musical Heritage.

After graduating from Indiana State Teachers College, **Frank M. Delsandro (BSEd 1957)** was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army Reserves, serving for eight years. He accepted a position at Purchase Line High School teaching instrumental and vocal music on the high school and elementary school levels. In 1961, Frank and his wife, Donna Jean, moved to California to continue their teaching careers. Donna Jean graduated from ISTC in 1960 with a BSEd in Elementary Education. Frank and Donna Jean have two children, Kevin and Karen and identical twin granddaughters, Melissa and Michelle, who graduated in May 2016 from the University of San Diego and were involved in Teach For America for two years. Frank taught instrumental music in Huntington Beach, CA and Santa Ana, CA from 1961-1994 when he retired. The Orange County, CA Music Administrators Awarded Frank the “Encore Music Award” for Outstanding Achievement in Music Education. During his music career Frank has performed in the following instrumental groups: The Doctors Symphony of Long Beach and Orange County, Bellflower Symphony, Anaheim Civic Light Opera Orchestra, Chapman College Bravo Brass, and other instrumental groups at the Former Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove. At the present he is playing trumpet with the Placentia Symphonic Band This is the house band for the Richard Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, CA. They perform three times a year for the national veterans holidays. This band performed in July 2016 on the USS Iowa stationed in Long Beach, CA.

Donna Nagey Robertson (BSEd 1957) continues as pianist of the Andoin Piano Trio. She recently gave a solo piano recital at Givens Estates in Asheville, North

Alumni Notes

Carolina.

Iona Loch Siegel (BSEd 1957) plays her viola with the Cape Community Orchestra, founded in 1990 to maintain an orchestra on Cape Cod. The group performs fall and spring concerts throughout the Cape. This is her sixth year with the orchestra, having joined the group after moving from New Jersey where she ended her professional career after 14 years as Director of the Westfield Presbyterian Church Nursery School. Iona and her husband, Dr. Richard Siegel, celebrated their 57th anniversary on June 4th 2017.

Jim Self (IUP 1965) has released a new album, "Floating in Winter" for jazz tuba/fluba with guitarist John Chiodini.

Elaine Tselepis Sheetz (BSEd 1971) recently had two compositions, *Voices of Freedom* and *Sing! America!* Performed by the Lenawee Community Chorus in Michigan. Both compositions were commissioned for the chorus' 50th anniversary. Elaine is a composer and piano teacher residing in Northern Virginia. At IUP she completed majors in both piano and harpsichord with a minor in voice. She has been a private piano teacher for 45 years. She has composed scores for film and is completing a score for a full-length feature film produced in Italy. She has composed liturgical music for the Greek Orthodox Church and has been the past organist and children's choir director for her church. In addition to her musical accomplishments, Ms. Sheetz has owned and operated multiple restaurants in the Washington, DC area including her current flagship restaurant, *Cesco Osteria*, in Bethesda, Maryland. *Cesco* has received countless awards such as "Most Popular Restaurant in Maryland", "Top 25 Restaurants in North America" and the *Washington Post's* "Top 50 Very Best Restaurants in DC."

Craig Breighner (BA 1973) retired in November 2015 after nearly 40 years as a full-time software developer, most recently working as an object oriented C++ programmer with Hewlett Packard Enterprise's LTE-4GL development group in Plano, TX, where he implemented several advanced telephony protocols. Having entered IUP as a music education major (trumpet, piano minor) in 1969,

he soon abandoned the trumpet to study singing. After completing his degree in liberal arts with a concentration in vocal music performance, he sold his trumpet, but continued to coach and study privately with singing professors at Carnegie-Mellon, Chatham, and Duquesne Universities, while attending the University of Pittsburgh as an MA candidate in ethnomusicology and an undergraduate student in computer science. During a lengthy extended "vacation" from brass playing, Craig was twice honored as a finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Auditions, Pittsburg District (dramatic tenor); worked briefly with the Pittsburgh Opera Chorus; and appeared as both tenor soloist and professional "core" member with the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh. From 1992 to 2008, following a fortuitous job transfer, he and his family resided in Austin, TX. There as a member of the Austin Federation of Musicians, he found himself in demand as both a side musician for recording sessions and live performances (keyboards, vocals) and a popular solo performer for weddings, receptions, office and/or society parties, and various other corporate and social engagements. In 2008, Craig and wife Valerie moved to Wesley Chapel, FL, where they currently reside. In November 2016, they celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. They have three grown sons, all string players: Christian, Ryan, and Michael. In May of 2016, Craig pricked up the trumpet for the first time after a 47-year hiatus and currently plays with the Wesley Chapel Wind Ensemble. He joined the group just four months after returning to his first instrument and has recently performed in three holiday concerts as part of the group's featured trumpet trio for Leroy Anderson's "Bugler's Holiday." For 15 to 30 minutes a day, he thinks, he's playing "better than ever." Along with keyboards, Craig now also enjoys playing – many of them at professional or quasi-professional levels: the Autoharp, 5-string banjo, didgeridoo, Dobro guitar, 6- and 12-string guitar, harmonica, mandolin, miscellaneous/exotic percussion instruments, recorder, trumpet, violin, and virtually every known size of ukulele. In October 2016, Craig and Valerie celebrated the birth of their first and only grandchild, to date, granddaughter Nahra Nynaeve Breighner (to proud parents Christian and Saba).

Gene Lamendola (BSEd 1975) retired from North Babylon Public Schools where he taught for 30 years and was Chairperson of Art and Music. He also retired in 2008 from Suffolk County Community College where he taught the History of Rock and Roll, Understanding Music, and History of Music. He is currently teaching privately at East End Arts in Riverhead, NY (Long Island).

Dana King (BSEd 1978) published his third novel, *Resurrection Mall*, with *Down and Out Books*. *Resurrection Mall* is the story of the effects of crime on an economically depressed Western Pennsylvania town.

Tammy (Reedy) Hampshire (BSEd 1980) retired in June 2017 after 37 years in music education. Mrs. Hampshire spent 36 years teaching in the Kiski Area School District in Vandergrift, PA. She taught music on all levels, both vocal and instrumental and has served as the Music Department Chair and High School Choir Director since 2005.

Rev. W. Stephen Morse (BA 1982) and Rev. Janet Lord (BSEd 1977) began serving together at Central Highlands Community United Methodist Church in Elizabeth, PA on July 1, 2017. Steve is an ordained Elder and serves as Senior Pastor. Janet is an ordained Deacon and serves as organist/pianist.

Linda Voegler Granite (BSEd 1994) was named a finalist for PA Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Mike Barnett (BA 1996, MA 1998) has recently published a rock music culture and history textbook titled *Rock: Postmodernism in Action* with Cognella Academic Publishing. Mike teaches an overwhelmingly popular class called *Music of the Rock Era* at the University of Colorado Boulder. He also teaches classes in songwriting at CU Boulder. In addition to teaching, he is active as a composer, performer, recording artist and record producer.

Dan Sensenig (BSEd 2001) and Kathy Thumpston (BSEd 1983) along with Maggie (Ryan) Sensenig, Ray Knight, and Henry Sobieski led 74 students and chaperones from eight school districts across three counties in northwest Pennsylvania to represent the state of Pennsylvania and

Alumni Notes

veterans of the USS Pennsylvania at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade on December 7, 2016, which marked the 75th anniversary of attack on Pearl Harbor. The Pennsylvania Pearl Harbor Honors Band performed at the USS Missouri and marched in the Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade and other festivities.

Malavika (Mika) Godbole (BA 2003), a graduate of the IUP Department of Music and the Cook Honors College, was a percussionist on the Grammy Award nominated album Lloyd: Bonhoeffer featuring the choral ensemble The Crossing. Since leaving Indiana, she has completed her Doctor of Music Arts at Rutgers University and has secured a teaching position at York College of Pennsylvania and Westminster Conservatory.

Jeremy Leidhecker (BSEd 2009) placed third in the Transatlantyk Film Music Festival.

Dr. Jim Johnson (BSEd 2011) was named Assistant Professor of Trumpet at Kansas State University. Dr. Johnson's duties will include teaching the trumpet studio, high brass techniques, and directing the trumpet ensemble and other brass chamber groups. He will also perform with the faculty brass quintet.

Dr. Matthew Morse (MA 2013) was appointed Assistant Professor of Music and Associate Director of Bands at California State University, Sacramento.

Wilson Poffenberger (BSEd 2013), won the grand prize at the ENKOR International Woodwinds and Brass Competition.

Marisa B. Youngs (BFA 2013) earned a Master of Fine Arts in Brass Performance from Boston University in May 2015. She is currently a doctoral student in Brass Performance at the University of Kentucky.

Kartik Ayyasola (BFA '14) has been engaged to sing the role of Alferes in the opera *Noli Me Tangere* with Opera Brittenica of Boston. The production is also in cooperation with KGB Productions out of Chicago. The opera is performed in Tagalog, the language of the Philippines. Ayyasola's other engagements include Alfred in Opera 51's production of *Die Fledermaus* as well as Brighella

in *Ariadne auf Naxos* with Lowell House Opera and Borse in Longwood Opera's Rigoletto. He was also the tenor soloist for Camille Saint-Saens' *Oratorio de Noel* with the Arlington-Belmont Chorale. Ayyasola has also garnered attention as a finalist in the Gerda Lissner Foundation Lieder/Song Competition held in New York City.

Monica (Paré) Littlefield (BSEd 2014) is currently teaching K-8 general music and choir in northern Vermont and playing flute in the Air Force National Guard Band of the Northeast. She is pursuing a Master of Arts in Ethnomusicology from Liberty University. She married Devin Littlefield in 2016.

Shannon Shaffer (BSEd 2014) accepted an instrumental music position in the Cameron County School District.

Jerry Umholtz (BSEd 2014), currently a DMA student at the University of North Texas, was selected as a member of the 2017 Southeast Trombone Symposium Performer Class.

Samantha Baydar (BSEd 2015) was recently hired as a K-5 General Music and Chorus teacher at Seitz Elementary School in Junction City, KS.

Ben Blasko (MM 2015) has been appointed director of bands at Dubuque University.

Kelly Snyder (BFA 2015) made her stage debut with the Mississippi Opera in the role of Peep-Bo in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado*. Snyder lives in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, where she serves as an apprentice with the Mississippi Opera as well as a graduate student at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Jonathan Walker-VanKuren (BFA 2015) was named a Mosher Studio Artist with Opera Santa Barbara. According to Opera Santa Barbara, the Mosher Studio Artist Program "provides high-level performance opportunities and valuable training to some of the country's most talented up-and-coming opera singers."

Zach Everett (BSEd 2016) began teaching at Shannock Valley Elementary School in the Armstrong School District.

Jesse Griffith (BA 2016) began performing as a drummer with a six-piece band on a Norwegian cruise line beginning May 15th, 2017.

Alex Price (BSED/BFA 2016) will be performing in the show bands with Royal Caribbean and Princess Cruises this year.

Ryan Gerney (BSEd 2017) began teaching band and chorus at Uniontown Area High School this year.

Luke Hamilton (BSEd 2017) was appointed to a full time music teaching position in the Marion Center school district.

Tashio Jefferson (BSED 2017) began teaching at William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary in Hartford County, MD.

Andrew Sheffer (BSEd 2017) was appointed Director of Bands at Northern High School in the Northern York County SD.

Condolences

Evan Broman (BSEd 1963) passed away in October 2017. He taught in the West Mifflin School District and performed with the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera for over 50 years.

Jay Buhler (BSEd 1972, MA 1975), longtime band director at Curwensville HS, passed away in April 2017.

Karen Wilson (BSEd 1980, MA 1986) passed away in October 2017. She served as a music teacher at Burrell School District for 34 years and was a member of PMEA, past president and member of Westmoreland County Music Educators Association, and was a recipient of the PSEA Creative Teacher's Award.

Professor emeritus, **John Dietz**, who retired from IUP in 2004 passed away in December 2016.

Kristi Dearing, who retired from IUP in 2010, passed away in August 2017.

Kaye Bird, wife of professor emeritus, Dr. Gary Bird, passed away in December 2016.

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Notes is a publication for alumni and friends of the IUP Department of Music; Dr. Stephanie Caulder, Chair.
The coordinator for *Notes* is Dr. Zach Collins.

Alumni Information:

We would like to know about the special *Notes* in your life! Please let us know what you are doing (current employment, marriage, children, special awards, etc.), so that we can include you in our next issue of *Notes*.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
IUP Degree(s): _____ Year(s): _____

Please return this form to:

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