JULIA BROXHOLM, associate professor of voice, and ELLEN SOMMER, lecturer in collaborative piano, were invited to present a recital as part of the guest artist series at Illinois State University on March 26. They repeated the program as part of the new recital series on the KU Edwards Campus on April 6. The featured work was Lori Laitman’s new song cycle, The Soul Fox, commissioned for Broxholm in 2013 by Reach Out Kansas, Inc. (Sommer, left, and Broxholm, right, are pictured above)

JOYCE CASTLE, professor of voice, will be singing five performances of Daughter of the Regiment in the role of the Marquise with the Pittsburgh Opera. The tenor lead is Lawrence Brownlee, who recently performed in the reopening concert series in Swarthout Recital Hall. Castle also organized the recent performance of alumni singers as part of the reopening concert series in Swarthout.

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The program included the song cycle Bells and Grass (soprano and oboe), Rilke Song (English horn and piano), and a world-premier performance of Hall’s piece for solo English horn, A Certain Tune.

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DEBRA HEDDEN, professor of music education & music therapy, was awarded a $2,500 grant by the Office of International Programs to assist with expenses for returning to Lithuania next fall as a Senior Specialist’s Fulbright Awardee (duration of 2 weeks). She will be teaching music education methods at the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences and conducting research with Dr. Asta Rauduvaite, director of the department of music, regarding how conductors of children’s choirs select music literature.

ABBY DVORAK, assistant professor of music education and music therapy, presented at the American Music Therapy Association Midwestern Regional Conference on April 10 in Omaha, NE with students: Eugenia Hernandez-Ruiz, MME, MT-BC; Sekyung Jang, MM, MT-BC; Leanna Kim, Megan Joseph, and Kori Wells. The presentation was titled “Engaging Students in Research: Reflections from a Qualitative Research Study.”

MARIANA FARAH, associate director of choral activities, was the guest conductor and clinician for the Columbia Public School 5th Grade Honors Choir on April 10. The Honors Choir involved around 100 of the brightest and most talented young singers in Columbia, MO. The concert, performed at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, was a collaboration with the KU Women’s Chorale and KU Concert Choir.

VINCE GNOJEK, professor of saxophone, presented a lecture demonstration on “The Joe Allard Pedagogy” at the Region IV Conference of the North American Saxophone Alliance at the University of Oklahoma in February. Additionally, he served as a woodwind adjudicator at the Oklahoma State Solo and Ensemble Contest at Oklahoma State University on April 21-23. Professor Gnojek is preparing for his fall 2015 sabbatical, on which he will be performing and presenting master classes and clinics in several Southeast Asian countries, Costa Rica and Puerto Rico.

PAUL LAIRD, professor of musicology, presented a lecture entitled “A Hint of West Side Story: The Genesis of Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms as Seen in the Library of Congress Bernstein Collection” at the Coolidge Auditorium of the Library of Congress on April 14. The lecture was part of the series of American Musicological Society-Library of Congress Lectures, a public forum for AMS members to present research of exceptional merit based on unique collections in the Music Division of the Library of Congress. Two lectures have been presented in the series each year since 2008. Laird’s lecture was based upon research he did in the Library of Congress Music Division for his book The Chichester Psalms of Leonard Bernstein, published in 2010 as part of the College Music Society Sourcebooks in American Music series.

BRAD OSBORN, assistant professor of music theory, gave an invited workshop entitled “Developing Online Modules to Support a Flipped Course” to an audience at the KU Center for Online and Distance Learning, in which he showcased some of the features of, and outcomes resulting from, his redesign of the Theory I and II courses. A complete video of his presentation is archived here: Lunch and Learn, February 11, 2015.
PAUL POPIEL, director of bands, visited a dozen area schools from Topeka to Kansas City to give clinics to high school bands in preparation for band festivals. He also adjudicated two days of band festivals for the Kansas State High School Activities Association. Popiel was the producer for two commercial recording projects: the KU Chamber Winds project recording works of Warren Benson for an upcoming Mark Custom compact disc, and the University of South Carolina Wind Ensemble compact disc for the Naxos label. Popiel also led the KU Wind Ensemble at a concert at Yardley Hall in Overland Park, and premiered works by James Barnes and Mohammed Fairouz with the Kansas Virtuosi at Swarthout Recital Hall in April.

COLIN ROUST, assistant professor of musicology, was a Guest Editor for the current issue of the Journal of Music History Pedagogy, preparing the published version of a conference roundtable that he helped organize for the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Musicological Society. The essays can be found under the title “The End of the Undergraduate Music History Sequence?” at http://goo.gl/oymqy4.

STEVEN SPOONER, associate professor of piano, is leaving for a tour of Asia this May and will be performing on the Shanghai Spring Festival at Shanghai Concert Hall, Erasmus Hall in Jakarta, and in Singapore, Surabaya, and Medan. Spooner will give master classes and workshops in the above cities and at Shanghai Normal University and Jakarta Conservatory, as well as promoting his new web-based piano show, alifeofmusic.com.

KETTY WONG, associate professor of ethnomusicology, presented a paper on April 23 at the International Congress on Music and Identities in Latin America and Spain: Ideological, Aesthetic, and Creative Processes in the 20th Century, which was organized by the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Her paper, entitled “The role of the Peruvian tecnocumbia in the revitalization and imagination of Ecuadorian national music,” was part of a three-year research project sponsored by the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness of Spain to investigate the construction of national identities across the Atlantic Ocean.

The University of Kansas School of Music and the Division of Organ sponsored the North American Round of the Tariverdiev International Organ Competition April 8-11. The competition was held on the Hellmuth Wolff Organ, Opus 40 in the Bales Organ Recital Hall. Judges for the competition were: Professor Lynne Davis, Wichita State University; Professor Martin Jean, Yale University; Professor Karel Paukert, Cleveland Ohio; Professor Michael Bauer, University of Kansas; and Professor James Higdon, University of Kansas, who served as the President of the Jury. Fourteen students from the United States, Korea, Russia, Austria and Romania competed. Six students were advanced to the Finals of the Competition, which will be held in Kaliningrad, Russia in September 2015. Two of the six students who advanced were KU students Yoomi Chang and Andrew Morris. The other four who advanced included two from Indiana University, one from the Eastman School of Music, and one from Oberlin College. Congratulations and best wishes to Yoomi and Andrew as they prepare for the finals in Russia.

DOROTHY GLICK, graduate student in musicology, won an award in the Graduate Research Competition, sponsored by the Graduate College, for her presentation: “Bringing the French Flute School to America: The Pedagogy of Paul Taffanel and Georges Barrère.”
NATHAN JONES, second-year DMA student in composition, was notified that his choral work, *I would live in your love*, was selected as a winner of the 2015 Ortus International New Music Competition. The piece will be performed by the Khorikos Choir on June 27 in New York City. Also, his percussion ensemble piece, *dance circles*, was premiered by the Oklahoma State University Percussion Ensemble on April 12 in Stillwater, OK. His choral work, *Lamp of our Feet*, was premiered by the Moorestown Friends School on April 22 in Moorestown, NJ.

The Kiowa Ensemble (above), made up of KU School of Music students MARGARET LAMBIE, MM, flute; MICKAYLA CHAPMAN, BM, clarinet; MAN WANG, DMA, violin; and CONG CONG CHAI, DMA, piano, competed in the finals of the MTNA National Chamber Music Competition on March 19 in Las Vegas, NV. They advanced to the MTNA National finals after winning the Kansas State MTNA competition last November, and the MTNA Regional competition in Fargo, ND in January. The Kiowa Ensemble's successes this year also included winning Third Prize in the ENKOR International Chamber Music Competition. The Kiowa Ensemble is coached by Michael Kirkendoll, assistant professor of piano, and Scott McBride Smith, professor of piano pedagogy.

CHRISTY MILLER, doctoral student in musicology from Lawrence, was recognized with a Graduate Research Competition Award for her presentation, “‘Round and ‘Round Hitler’s Grave: Folk Music as Propaganda in The Martins and the Coys”.

LISA MULLINGER, graduate student in musicology, won an award in the Graduate Research Competition, sponsored by the Graduate College, for her presentation “Constructing Identity in Saint Petersburg: State Financing of Choral Composers”.

AMELIA ROLLINGS, graduate student in music education and music therapy, won the Chancellor’s Graduate Teaching Assistant Award. “Everyone loves and respects Amelia,” one nominator said. “She does not seek or need the limelight, but rather goes about her work with a quiet, steady effectiveness that ultimately speaks volumes about her love of teaching and her considerable teaching skills.” Another nominator noted that her teaching is so well-regarded among students that there is a waiting list for her courses.

ELIZABETH SALLINGER, graduate student in musicology, won an award in the Graduate Research Competition, sponsored by the Graduate College, for her presentation: “Rock, Folk Rock, Rhythm and Blues: The Musical Soundscape of Hair”.

GEOFF WILCKEN, DMA student in composition, is the inaugural winner of the Kansas Choral Composition Prize. The only program of its kind in the state of Kansas, this initiative was founded by the Wichita Chamber Chorale and co-sponsored by Senseney Music, Inc. The Kansas Choral Composition Prize (KCCP) fosters original choral music of the highest quality, with the intention of giving the winner(s) a high-profile performance of their
Swarthout Recital Hall
REOPENING CELEBRATION

The University of Kansas continues to celebrate the beginning of an era with the opening concerts celebrating the renovation of Swarthout Recital Hall, the primary performance venue for the KU School of Music. In April, six performances were held in the new space: Distinguished Alumni of the School of Music; Guest Artist Susanna Phillips, soprano; Guest Artists Lawrence Brownlee, tenor and Martin Katz, piano; Guest Composer Eric Ewazen with KU faculty and students; Kansas Virtuosi; and Guest Artist David Shifrin, clarinet, and the Borromeo String Quartet.

The final performance was Friday, May 1 with Guest Artist Deborah Brown and KU Jazz Combo I under the direction of Matt Otto.

Read more about Swarthout Recital Hall here.

See a video history of Donald Swarthout here

Upcoming Events

MAY 5  SYMPHONIC BAND
7:30 p.m. Lied Center
Lied Center Ticket Office | 785-864-2787 | lied.ku.edu

MAY 5  KU CHOIRS: BALES CHORALE
7:30 p.m. Bales Organ Recital Hall
School of Music students FREE
Lied Center Ticket Office | 785-864-2787 | lied.ku.edu

MAY 6  FACULTY RECITAL SERIES: ED LAUT, CELLO
7:30 p.m. Swarthout Recital Hall
Admission free

MAY 7  KU YOUTH CHORUS
5:15 p.m. 328 Murphy Hall
Admission free

MAY 7  JAZZ ENSEMBLE I with GUEST SOLOIST: ADDISON FREI, PIANO
7:30 p.m. Lawrence Arts Center
Admission free
Lied Center Ticket Office | 785-864-2787 | lied.ku.edu

All events subject to change. Please visit music.ku.edu for the latest event information.