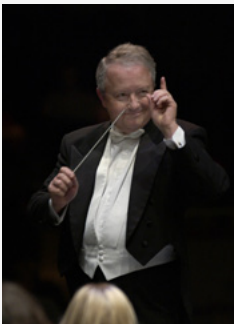




Faculty NEWS



JAMES BARNES, professor of music theory & music composition, and **ROBERT FOSTER**, professor of music education & music therapy, have retired after **more than 40 years** each of teaching music and leading bands at the KU School of Music.



A retirement party was held Saturday, May 16 to celebrate their time at KU. You can see photos from their years at KU [here](#). ■



MARIANA FARAH, associate director of choral activities, completed a residency with the Harvard-

Radcliffe Collegium Musicum at **Harvard University**. The residency ended with a concert at the John Knowles Paine Concert Hall on May 22. ■



BRAD OSBORN, assistant professor of music theory, is featured in the new book *Song Interpretation in 21st-Century Pop Music* (Ashgate, 2015). His essay

on intertextuality in PJ Harvey's song *The Words That Maketh Murder* was, like most of the essays in this book, co-written by an international team of scholars over the period of a week together in residence at the University of Osnabrück (Germany). For more information click [here](#). ■



PAUL POPIEL, director of bands, conducted a concert with the Wind Orchestra at the **Central Conservatory** in Beijing, China. ■



ROBERTA FREUND SCHWARTZ, associate professor of musicology, presented a paper entitled "Jazz Me Blues: Chicago's

South Side Jazz Bands, the City Style, and the Thin Blue(s) Line" at the national meeting of the **Association for Recorded Sound Collections** in Pittsburgh on May 28. ■



MATTHEW O. SMITH, associate director of bands, guest conducted the **Fox Valley Honor Band** in Oswego, Illinois on April 27.

While in Illinois he also worked with bands in Naperville, Yorkville, and Sycamore. On May 10, he co-conducted the **Lawrence Community Orchestra** in their Mother's Day concert, featuring music from Musicals, Operas, and Movies.

Cover Photo: : The KU Trombone Choir directed by Michael Davidson, associate professor of trombone, performed at the Kansas State Capitol on Thursday, May 7.

Earlier this semester he was a guest clinician for band festivals in Blue Valley and Lincoln, Nebraska, and visited many schools to assist in their preparation for large group festival performances. ■



STEVEN SPOONER, associate professor of piano, was hired to the faculty of the **Colburn Music Academy** in Los Angeles, Musicfest Perugia in Italy, as well as juror at the Steps Toward Mastery International Piano Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia and the EDR International Piano Competition in Chicago. ■



KETTY WONG, associate professor of ethnomusicology, is the recipient of the **2015 Mu Phi Epsilon Bettylou Scandling Hubin Scholarship** for World Music/Multicultural Music. She will use this scholarship to conduct summer research on international ballroom dancing for her book project, *The Dragon's Encounters with the West*, which examines the reception of Western cultures in modern China. Professor Wong also presented a segment of her Fulbright research on salsa dancing in China within the Milton Steinhardt Lecture Series at KU on April 29. ■

The KU Bands hosted the **Midwest Conducting Symposium** in May, attracting conductors from several states. The conductor participants ranged from undergraduate music education students to public school directors, graduate conducting students, and military band conductors. Clinicians included Matthew Smith, associate director of Bands, Sharon Toulouse, assistant director of Bands, Martin Bergee, professor of music education, Paul W. Popiel, director of bands, and Mallory Thompson, director of bands at Northwestern University. The two-day symposium was comprised of lectures, discussions, and conducting master classes for participants to conduct the KU Chamber Winds and KU Wind Ensemble. ■

Student NEWS



ANA MARÍA HERNÁNDEZ-CANDELAS, DMA student in flute performance, was a **guest professor** at a youth symphony orchestras workshop in **Puerto Rico** known as 100x35 (El Sistema Puerto Rico). This youth orchestras program is based on the El Sistema Program from Venezuela. ■



CHRISTY MILLER, doctoral student in musicology, was awarded the **Woody Guthrie Fellowship** by the BMI Foundation. The fellowship will fund Miller's research at the Woody Guthrie

Archives in Tulsa, OK. ■



MIRIAM BRACK WEBBER, PhD student in music theory, was awarded a **Summer Research Fellowship** through the KU Office of Graduate Studies for a second year in a row. The fellowship will fund the initial stages of her dissertation research into analytical connections between Russian literary theorist Mikhail Bakhtin and the music of Dmitri Shostakovich. Brack Webber studies with David Alan Street, assistant professor of music theory. ■



S. THOMAS SCOTT, PhD student in vocal pedagogy, was awarded the **Tinker Field Research Grant** in conjunction with the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Scott will travel to Brazil in June to study the acoustic characteristics of the sacred songs of a native tribe near Pesqueira, Pernambuco. For information about the grant, click [here](#). For information on the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, click [here](#). ■

Voice & Opera students will be performing across the country this summer and fall: Alexis Alfaro, Eutin Festspiele; Katie Meyer, National Music Festival, Maryland; Kristin Newbegin, Des Moines Metro Opera – Apprentice;

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Mackenzie Phillips, Brevard Music Festival; Ashleigh Puenner, Taneycomo Festival Orchestra; Mackenzie Rogers, Taneycomo Festival Orchestra; Kevin Smith, Brevard Music Festival; Jessica Wagner, National Music Festival, Maryland; Clark Weyrauch, Seagle Music Colony - Fall Tour; and Calvet Young, Opera in the Ozarks. ■

The Trombone Choir (pictured in cover photo on page one) performed a free concert at the [Kansas State Capitol](#) as part of a series of concerts entitled “KU at the Capitol”. The Trombone Choir is directed by MICHAEL DAVIDSON, associate professor of trombone.

Funding for the concert series is provided by Reach Out Kansas, Inc., The Law Offices of Smithyman & Zakoura, and The Zakoura Family Fund, a Fund of the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. ■

2015 STUDENT AWARDS

E. Thayer Gaston Award
KATHLEEN M. MARTIN

Marcus E. Hahn Award
HANNAH J. STEVENS

Carl and Francis Haven Preyer Award for Outstanding
Graduating Pianist
KYLE NAIG

Carl and Francis Haven Preyer Award for Outstanding
Graduating Vocalist
JACOB THEDE

Sigma Alpha Iota Collegiate Scholastic Award
KELSEY JAMES

Sigma Alpha Iota Collegiate Honor Award
ALEXANDRA PRATHER

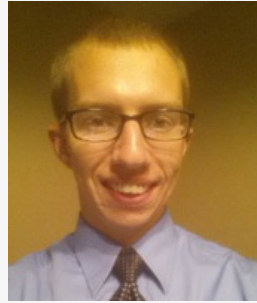
2015 Anthony Cius Award for Outstanding Student
Composer at KU
CHRISTOPHER BURTON

Eugene and Mary Mingle Scholarship Award for
Outstanding Undergraduate Music Theory & Music
Composition Student
K.R. AZAD

Robert E. Foster Wind Band Composition Prize for
Outstanding Wind Band Work by a Resident KU
Composition Student
TRAVIS RIGBY - *SONORAN SLENDOR*

Sandra Keller Daugherty Award for Outstanding
Graduate Choral Conducting
CHRISTOPHER SMITH

Alumni NEWS



DAVID FERNEAU, BMus '13, won a national audition for the [Disneyland Band](#). He will perform music in high-energy choreographed shows 5 days a week, Tuesday through Saturday at various times and locations throughout the park. ■



R. DOUGLAS HELVERING, DMA composition '08, was recently promoted to the rank of adjunct associate professor at [Westminster Choir College of Rider University](#). He is the composer of the new Alma Mater of Rider University, and was commissioned by the famed Westminster Choir to write a new piece (using poetry

by Tony Silvestri) that has been premiered, published by GIA Music, and is being included by the Choir as they perform at the [Spoleto Festival USA](#) later this spring. Visit his website at www.rdouglasshelvering.com. Additionally, his major work *Requiem for the Living* for chorus and orchestra has been performed hundreds of times in the two years it's been in print, including performances on five of the seven continents. Helvering continues to maintain an active presence in the choral music community as composer, editor, and teacher. ■



CYNTHIA MUNZER, BM '57, received the [Thornton School of Music 2015 Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching](#) at the Honor's Convocation May 14. Additionally, she was interviewed by ABC News, and it can be viewed [here](#). ■

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LISA NEHER, MM composition '11, finished coursework last semester for her DMA in voice at the **University of Iowa**, and is beginning the research process for her DMA essay. Neher has recently performed professionally;

premiering the role of Jennifer in the chamber opera *One Thousand White Paper Cranes* in Japan with Chamber Sounds ensemble in Singapore; alto soloist for Vivaldi's *Gloria* with the **Grinnell Oratorio Society**; and the Central Iowa Symphony Duo recital with violinist Timothy Hsu at the Maquoketa Art Experience in Maquoketa, Iowa. ■

Voice & Opera alumni will be performing across the country this summer and fall: Ashley Benes, Aspen Music Festival, Admin. Intern; Olivia Betzen, Songfest; Jeff Beruan, Caramoor Festival and Florentine Opera in the Fall; Katie Bieber, National Music Festival, Maryland and Lyric Opera of Chicago Chorus – fall; Nicole Burkhart, Lawrence Opera Theater; Andrea Coleman, Metropolitan Opera Chorus; Tara Curtis, San Francisco Opera Merola Program; Andrew Fuchs, LA Philharmonic/ Amherst Early Music Fest; Etta Fung, National Music Festival, Maryland; Gina Galati, Union Avenue Opera and Winter Opera of St. Louis in the Fall; Kristee Haney, New York City Opera Renaissance Project; Jeff McEvoy, Seagle Music Colony, Stage Director; Robert McNichols, Lawrence Opera Theater; John Meyer, Eastman School of Music, Grad School; Phyllis Pancella, Santa Fe Opera; Dylan Paul (Hilpman), Oregon Shakespeare Festival; Dustin Peterson, National Music Festival, Maryland; Callie Schlegel, Songfest; Tyler Simpson, Detroit Symphony, Castleton Festival, and Metropolitan Opera – Fall; Aaron Springer, Lawrence Opera Theater; Lauren Stafford, Cimarron Opera, Oklahoma City; Annalize Sussman, Taos Opera, Seagle Music Colony workshop; Hugo Vera, Lawrence Opera Theater, Director; and Brad Walker, San Francisco Opera Merola Program. ■

KU MUSIC ALUMNI - SEND US YOUR NEWS!

KU Music alumni, we would love to hear about the great work you're doing in the world of music. Please send us your music-related news - jobs, awards, photos, etc. - to musicnews@ku.edu. We would love to hear from you! ■

Upcoming Events

MAY 31

**FACULTY RECITAL SERIES:
STEVEN SPOONER, PIANO**

2:30 p.m. JCCC Polsky Theatre
Admission free, but tickets are required
Call 913-469-4445 for tickets
Sponsored by Reach Out Kansas, Inc.

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



MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC CAMP
June 14 -19, 2015 (Band & Orchestra)

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC CAMP
June 21 - 26, 2015 (Band, Choir & Orchestra)

HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ WORKSHOP
July 12 - 17, 2015

a national music camp hosted by the UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

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