

HARDING UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

e-notes

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CHORUS to South AMERICA

On May 10, 35 members of Harding Chorus departed for South America, giving concerts for local congregations, assisting in promoting church activities, developing contacts, and establishing connections between church and community. In Rio de Janeiro, in addition to singing at the Vittoria and Niteroi church buildings and distributing literature at a shopping mall and in parks, the group gave a concert at the downtown Villa Lobos School of Music, visited Sugarloaf Mountain, and enjoyed Copacabana and Ipanema beaches.

In Buenos Aires, the group sang at the University of La Matanza, at the Puete a la Vida and Caballito church buildings, at a Christian school, and at ICANA, a cultural exchange agency. The visit coincided with the 200th anniversary of Argentinian independence, which was a fantastic and crowded celebration. Part of the group went to a local radio station to be featured on a live show.

From Buenos Aires they took a 27-hour bus ride across the continent to Viña del Mar, Chile, a resort city and the location of Harding's study abroad program in Latin America. Chorus members explored the beautiful campus and visited with Harding students who were there; they also gave a concert at the University of Viña del Mar.

In Santiago, they were hosted by Harding alumni who work with the Providencia congregation, singing at a local seminary and at the interesting and inspiring small Los Nogales congregation, located in a crime-ridden part of town.

The trip was rewarding in many ways. Students felt engaged with host congregations and were pleased to sing for them and to make their communities more aware of their work. All were blessed to be able to work and travel together for the three weeks, seeing three of the major cities of South America.

The Chorus travels overseas in alternating summers and has sung in 35 countries during the last 30 years under the leadership of **Dr. Cliff Ganus**. The next such trip is scheduled for May and June of 2012.

ATHLETIC BANDS DIRECTOR NAMED

New full-time faculty member Dr. Wesley Parker has been named as Harding's first Director of Athletic Bands. Parker's expertise as a percussionist and drum line teacher were key factors in the move to expand staff at this time. Parker earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Memphis, his master's at University of Kentucky, and his doctorate at Florida State University ('10). In addition to his work at Harding, Parker maintains an active schedule as a teacher, adjudicator, and arranger in Arkansas, Texas, and Tennessee, having also worked with music programs in Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, and Florida. His inaugural season includes six home football games and an exhibition performance on Oct. 16 in Charleston, Ark. at the Dale Bumpers Marching Classic.



CUE FROM THE CHAIR

If you are a high school senior, it's time to begin preparing for music scholarship auditions. Go to www.harding.edu/music/scholarships for more information. Fill out an application and contact an area coordinator to set up your audition. Come join our current music majors and faculty who will tell you:

"Do what you love...Make Music!"

J. Warren Casey

VOCALIZATIONS



CHAMBER SINGERS PERFORM in MALIBU, CALIFORNIA

The Chamber Singers, directed by **Dr. Kelly Neill**, were invited to sing at Pepperdine University in May as part of the Ascending Voice II Conference, a three-day event devoted to *a cappella* music in worship. The well-received concert “Expressions of Worship” included music from several time periods and featured a song composed by recent HU graduate **Brian Foy** (‘09).

Members of the group also participated in a combined choir conducted by Robert Page, one of the most respected conductors in the country. Page also worked with the Chamber Singers during the final conference day. The singers attended concerts by Harlem Boys and Girls Choir Alumni and Chanticleer and played some “vicious” games of beach volleyball.

GREAT SHOWING at NATS

Seventeen vocalists went to Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Ark. last February for the state NATS conference. Harding students fared well, the majority qualifying for finals or semifinals. **Nate White** won first place in lower division musical theater. **Elizabeth Burchfield** was selected to sing on a masterclass with guest artist, tenor Stanford Olsen. **Cameron Frazier** finished third in junior men, **Nate White** second in sophomore men, **Alex Ritchie** second in senior men, and **Emily Eads** second in high school women. **Dr. Arthur Shearin** has served NATS as the state president for the past two years, and **Dr. Kelly Neill** was elected to be secretary for the next two years.

INSTRUMENTATION

WIND ENSEMBLE PROJECTS

Since Dr. Wesley Parker is now leading the marching band, Dr. Michael Chance has been able to create new opportunities during the fall semester for advanced instrumentalists in the form of “project groups”. Special groups have been formed, each requiring a different instrumentation and lasting for only the duration of its project. Qualified musicians have been invited to participate according to the needs of the groups, and three groups are currently in progress. On Oct. 19, the first group will perform original background music for the classic silent film *Cops*, starring Buster Keaton. Group 2 forms the pit orchestra for the fall homecoming musical, with performances Nov. 2, 5, and 6. Project Group 3 forms the holiday wind ensemble, which will provide a holiday concert on Dec. 7.

EXPANDING STRINGS

With a record 25 string players comprising its core, the HU/Community Orchestra is well under way. String majors at the university welcome new adjunct violin teacher **Mr. Long Long Kang** and are excited about their progress as violin students. “Mr. Kang is exactly what a student hopes for in a teacher: a great encourager and critic, well-organized, and a master of his craft!” says sophomore violinist, **Lisa Petersburg**. The orchestra will present its first campus concert on Oct. 12, featuring a performance of Mozart’s *Symphony No. 29*.

BAND CAMP

Nineteen students attended the first HU summer Band Camp which was designed to fill a need articulated by area band directors for high quality instruction for young band students. Students, parents, and faculty gave very positive response to the weeklong event. This summer’s staff consisted of **Dr. Michael Chance** and area band directors. Plans are already underway to expand the camp’s offerings for next summer.

2010 SUMMER HONOR CHOIR

This year’s weeklong event included 60 students from 19 states. Begun in 2003 by **Dr. Cliff Ganus**, the session is designed to give high school singers an intensive choral experience, giving them an hour of college credit. A variety of classes are included plus cultural events such as attending a production of Searcy Summer Dinner Theater. Faculty included Cliff and Debbie Ganus, Kelly Neill, Arthur Shearin, Laura Eads, Chuck Hicks, Jenna Thomas, and Travis Kaye.

VARIETY PAGE

SPECIAL TOPICS in MUSIC

To fill the need for additional upper-level course hours for music students, a new course has been added: MUS 320 Special Topics in Music (3 credit hours). The first semester's offering will be taught by **Dr. Scott Carrell** and called "La Belle Époque: Music and the Arts in Paris, 1870-1930." It will explore the artistic environment and the influences of various cultures on western European music of the era, particularly that of French composers. A number of on-campus concerts and cultural events related to the topic are planned, including collaborations with several other departments. E-mail scarrell@harding.edu for more information.

NEILL PRESENTATION

Dr. Kelly Neill and Walt Disney acoustics engineer Randy Coppinger presented a session last spring at Pepperdine's Ascending Voice II Conference about the importance and challenges of designing and constructing church buildings that enhance, rather than discourage, good congregational singing. "Singing is so important in our worship to God and our identity as a church, yet many churches do not invest in singing like they do for other areas of church life. Often, when worship seems bland and lifeless the problem may have more to do with the room than with the people. Size and shape of the facility and choice of building materials are critical in helping a church sing well, and the benefits of good congregational singing will bless a church for decades." - Neill

QUICK FACT

Searcy Community School of Music, headed by faculty member Lis Jones, has just surpassed 100 enrolled students! HU students, alumni, and faculty teach in the growing private lessons program.

STRING EXPERIENCE 2010

The third annual String Experience held this summer was a great success with 24 local string students attending. Campers were divided into three small orchestras for rehearsals; every student worked on fiddling everyday as well. Classes were held in a variety of topics, plus the students spent one hour each day with a guest teacher from the Music Educators Experience who taught them as a demonstration for that event. A guest fiddler, movies, outdoor games, staff recital, and camp concert rounded out the days' activities. The weeklong day camp is designed to promote string orchestra in the Searcy area.

MUSIC EDUCATORS EXPERIENCE

Music teachers and clinicians from five states participated in the second annual summer Music Educators Experience. Dr. Edwin Gordon, world-renowned researcher in children's music learning, and Heather Kirby of the Gordon Institute of Music Learning provided 30 hours of professional development. Classroom teaching strategies, musicianship, harmonization, and improvisation principles for all age groups were presented. Working with local string campers, Heather Kirby had the students harmonizing in Dorian, Phrygian, and Lydian modes and applying their learning to their instruments by the end of the week.



David Robison of

HU also presented sessions on technology for the music classroom. Input from music educators as to what might be offered at HU in future summers is welcomed.



For more information about Summer Music @ Harding, see our website at www.harding.edu/music/summermusic or contact music@harding.edu.

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T-shirts now available!
music@harding.edu

ON-CAMPUS MUSIC

- 09/21 Sin-Hsing Tsai, visiting piano artist,
7 p.m. - Reynolds
09/26 Chorus at Lectureship, 6:30 p.m. - Benson
09/28 GNS at Lectureship, 6:30 p.m. - Benson
09/28 Chamber Singers Concert, 8:30 p.m. - Benson
09/29 Concert Choir at Lectureship, 6:30 p.m. - Benson
09/29 Belles & Beaux Concert, 8:30 p.m. - Benson
10/02 Belles & Beaux Concert, 3 p.m. - GAC lawn
10/02 GNS Songfest, 4 p.m. - GAC lawn
10/07 Lyceum: St. Louis Brass - 7 p.m. - Admin. Aud.
10/12 String Orchestra, 7 p.m. - Admin. Aud.
10/19 Wind Ensemble - *Cops* silent movie,
7 p.m. Admin. Aud.
11/05-11/06 Homecoming Musical:
Thoroughly Modern Millie, 8 p.m. - Benson
11/12 Lyceum: *Octavian*, 7 p.m. - Admin. Aud.
11/12 Jazz Band "Big Band Radio Show",
7 p.m. - SHS PAC
11/14 Christian Academy Choral Festival Concert
7:30 p.m. - Benson
11/16 Percussion Concert, 7 p.m. - Reynolds
11/18 Jazz Band Concert, 7 p.m. - Reynolds
12/02 Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m. - Admin. Aud.
12/07 Wind Ensemble Christmas Chapel, 9 a.m. - Benson

ON THE ROAD

- 09/24 Scott Carrell @ Freed-Hardeman,
Henderson TN
09/25 Scott Carrell @ U of Tennessee,
Chattanooga TN
09/26 GNS @ Batesville AR "Family Day"
09/27 Scott Carrell @ Lee University,
Cleveland TN
10/02 Concert Choir to Texarkana
10/08 GNS @ Silver Dollar City, Branson MO
10/09 GNS @ Silver Dollar City, Branson MO
10/16 Marching Band @ Dale Bumpers Invita-
tional Marching Contest, Charleston, AR
10/17 Chorus @ Ash Flat AR
11/15 Concert Choir @ McPherson Prison
12/05 Belles & Beaux @ "Red River Rake" -
Shreveport LA

JAZZ RIFFS

The HU Jazz Band will be performing a "live radio show" entitled "Music of the Greatest Generation" 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12 at Searcy High School's Performing Arts Center. Musical selections will be big band standards from the Swing era. Chicago jazz trumpeter Doug Scharf, Chicago "crooner" Bob Duda, and Hot Springs *chanteuse* Shirley Chauvin will be returning as featured soloists with all proceeds benefitting Searcy Humane Society. Tickets available through Music Dept. ext.4343

ALUMNI UPDATE

BIRTHS etc.

- 02/19/10 **Lucy Florence** was born to Brian ('04) and Rachel Turek Sullivan ('04)
05/03/10 **Lydia Eve** was born to Micah ('02) and Becky Kelly San Juan (BME '03)
06/16/10 **Timothy Ryan** was born to David (BME '00) and Christie Lucich ('00)
07/09/10 **Jackson Brantley** was born to Ben and Amy Tittle Carrigan (BA '01)
07/19/10 **Hannah Beth** was born to Tyler (BME '03) and Kelly Duncan Wiggains (BME '03)
08/06/10 **Natalie Elizabeth** was born to Dan and Elizabeth Sewell Giger (BME '00)
09/04/10 **Elis Vierra** (age 7) was adopted by Jeff and Lisa Ann Shepherd (BA '99)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Tyler Wiggains** ('03) was hired as the new band director in Whitewright, TX.
Matt Stidham ('06) was hired as assistant band director in Leonard ISD, TX.
David Lucich ('02) completed his MM degree at Middle Tennessee State University.

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you love ...
Make
Music!