Greetings from the Chair

During the AY 2014-15 the Department of Music remained a vibrant center for the composition, performance, teaching, study, and research of music. On campus, we presented 13 faculty recitals, 28 large ensemble concerts, 7 small ensemble concerts, 5 Traditional Jazz concerts, 14 daytime student potpourri recitals, a student composers concert (featuring works by 5 students) and 60 junior, senior, and graduate recitals. The department also hosted 3 guest master classes, and 3 guest recitals.

We continue to offer 3 weeks of summer instruction to young musicians through Junior and Senior SYMS. As always, our Piano Extension Program continues to be very successful. Other major outreach activities included the UNH Jazz Festival, the Choral Gala, the Band Extravaganza, Double Reed Day, the Seacoast Jazz Band, the New Hampshire Youth Band, and the UNH Youth Symphony Orchestra. For the fourth consecutive year we held a Fall Orchestra Festival (high school string students), and in spring the NH Wind Band Festival (for high school band programs).

Department faculty performed as solo, chamber ensemble, or large ensemble musicians and served as conductors, adjudicators, clinicians or lecturers throughout New Hampshire and in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Iowa, Massachusetts, Maine, Colorado, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Michigan, England, and Wales.

During the past year no fewer than 5 papers were published, read, or accepted for publication, while 2 reviews were published. There are also at least 3 books and roughly a dozen papers in varying states of preparation. There were 24 premiers of compositions, and 15 compositions were either published or submitted for publication. There are at least 3 compact discs in preparation or recently completed.

We say hello to two new adjunct faculty members: Ms. Emileigh Vandiver joins us as our new cello instructor. Emileigh holds a Graduate Diploma in Performance, with Academic Honors, from the New England Conservatory of Music and is an active free-lance performer and teacher. Emileigh spent this past summer as a member of the cello section with the Houston Symphony. Ms. Liz Tobias is our new director of the Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Liz is an active free-lance performer and teacher working regularly in Boston and New York, and is also the director of the Vocal Jazz Ensemble at MIT in Cambridge. She will be completing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Jazz Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music later this year.

This past year two of our faculty received major awards. DavidSeller was the recipient of the University of New Hampshire’s Distinguished Professor Award, the highest award given annually to a member of the university faculty. As most of you know, Dave retired from the university at the conclusion of AY 2014-2015. This award was one of many accolades given to Dave throughout the past year. An appreciation of his career written by John T. Kirkpatrick, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, appears on page 21.

Arlene Kies was the recipient of the Kennedy Center Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award, a national award for teachers who have had an extraordinary impact on students. Arlene was nominated for this award by music education alumna Valerie Peters ’10. Sadly, I must report that due to a serious illness, Arlene had to resign from the department faculty this past year. Arlene has had an immeasurable impact on us all, and we all miss her presence in the department so very much. An appreciation of Arlene’s career written by Professor David Ripley appears in this issue.

This will be my last time writing this column as I will be stepping down as the Chair of the Department of Music. Serving as chair has great rewards: there are many wonderful things we as a department have accomplished over the past four years, and I have been in the center of action for most of these accomplishments. It has been most exciting. I would like to thank all of my colleagues for their help and support, especially former department chairs, Professors Peggy Vagts, Mark DeTurk, and Robert Stibler, and also Alexis Zaricki, our Academic Department Coordinator. Their unfailing council and advice was of inestimable value.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the exceptional work of all of our faculty and staff. Through their efforts, we continue to offer the high-quality education that our students expect and deserve. Our Calendar of Events 2015-16 is available to all upon request, and our web site contains all information regarding upcoming concerts, special events, auditions, etc. We are always happy to hear from you, and if you happen to be in Durham, please stop by.

Nicholas Orovich
Professor and Chair
Applause for Arlene Kies
by Professor David Ripley

Arlene Kies passed away on February 11, 2016. We hope you enjoy reading this tribute and the article on page 8, written before her passing. A public memorial event in celebration of Arlene’s vibrant life is currently in the planning stages. Details will be posted on the Music Department website when they become available. Donations may be sent to the Department of Music Gift Fund (checks should be made out to UNH Foundation), referencing Arlene Kies: UNH Foundation, Inc., Elliott Alumni Center, 9 Edgewood Rd, Durham, NH 03824.

Since March of 2014, our beloved Arlene Kies has been valiantly dealing with a major illness and, for that reason, has sadly been compelled to end her teaching at the University of New Hampshire. This is both a great loss and a time to give thanks. I am one of likely hundreds of people who would love to pay tribute and thanks to Arlene Kies, with good reason. I can think of no one who gives of themselves more as an artist, teacher, mentor and citizen to the community. I have had the pleasure and privilege of collaborating with her now for nearly twenty years, beginning with our performance of Schubert’s Die Schöne Müllerin in the summer of 1997. Since that time we have performed together annually, usually on several occasions, at the University of New Hampshire, in Jordan Hall, and for various recital series.

Artistically, Arlene is a dream come true. I can best describe making music with her as feeling as if we are each a wing paired on the same bird. Her playing is not only prodigious but also so intuitive and sensitive to song and its intricate motion, through the nuanced marriage of music and text. She understands, anticipates, and supremely compliments the meaning of every line of text. In short her playing is poetic.

As a pianist in her own right her repertoire is, to use a metaphorical mountain term, Himalayan. It includes Bach’s Goldberg Variations; all of the Sonatas from Beethoven’s late period; the complete Goyescas, Op. 11, by Enrique Granados; Rachmaninov’s Piano Concertos #2 and #3; all of Frederic...
Chopin's larger works, including the Sonata for Cello and Piano; Sonata #6 by Serge Prokofieff; the larger works by Robert Schumann, especially Carnaval, Op. 9, and Kreisleriana, Op. 16; Mephisto Waltz by Franz Liszt and numerous other piano masterpieces. Another significant part of her performance life has been joining her husband, composer and pianist Christopher Kies, on many occasions for piano versions of famous works and four-hand repertoire, especially: Petroushka and The Rite of Spring by Igor Stravinsky; Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Op. 56b, by Johannes Brahms; Rhapsody in Blue (four-hands version) by George Gershwin; and Dolly, Op. 56, by Gabriel Fauré.

A pure soldier in her devotion to community, Arlene has played for countless faculty recitals, vocal and instrumental, for decades. Everyone who has worked with her has been enriched by the experience. She unfailingly brought the level of a concert pianist to the role of collaborator in the love of her work.

She has uplifted not only many colleague artists, but also many hundreds of lucky audience members who have attended her recitals. Her students have gone on to esteemed careers of teaching and performance. I have personally witnessed her former students play and marveled at the growth of their artistry, assurance, confidence, equilibrium, evenness, decisiveness, and range of emotion — ALL seeds planted and nourished by Arlene.

In the early spring of 2014, Arlene magnificently performed the Rachmaninoff Third Piano Concerto with the Portsmouth Symphony. The demands of this piece are notorious and her standing ovation was richly deserved. Only days later, she was diagnosed with a serious illness. Her perseverance in the Rachmaninoff was even more monumental than anyone knew.

Since that time she has persevered remarkably but has had to stop playing. The recordings shown below mostly represent work that Arlene and I did together in a few days during the summer of 2007 and lay untouched since that time. It was the idea of her husband that these be made available to the public at least in some limited way as a tribute to her.

It is my privilege to know that these recordings honor her life and her work. I believe that in every song you will experience the love, talent, artistry and dedication that are the esteemed hallmarks of her life and work. Thank you, Arlene!

It is Arlene’s and Chris’s intention that each of Arlene’s present and former students should receive a free copy of this two-CD set. All of Arlene’s students should contact Chris Kies at ckies@unh.edu for info on how to obtain their personal copy.

There will remain a few copies that may be purchased through the Music Department Office. For information on how to purchase the two CD set, contact music.info@unh.edu.
Scholarships and Awards
Presser Scholar 2015 Rachel Williams

The Department of Music has named Rachel Williams as the 2015 Presser Scholar. Rachel grew up in Maine, attending Westbrook High School. She started playing the clarinet in the fifth grade, studying with Maria Wagner in Portland, Maine and Dr. Elizabeth Gunlogson at the University of New Hampshire. While studying at UNH Rachel has participated in Wind Symphony, Symphony Orchestra, Symphonic Band, woodwind trio, and woodwind quintet. During the summer of 2014 Rachel studied abroad in Italy. As a candidate for the Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education, Rachel hopes to become a middle school band director after graduating. Aside from school, Rachel teaches private clarinet lessons, helps out with the Somersworth, New Hampshire Marching Band, and enjoys playing tennis.

Rachel Williams pictured here during study abroad in Ascoli Piceno, Italy
Nathan Faro ‘15

Composition

Rediscovering Revolutions: The Use of Folk Song in Amy Beach’s Variations on Balkan Themes

Nathan’s research explored the Bulgarian revolutionary folk song O maiko moia and its manipulation throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. He followed its passage through the hands of American Congregational missionary Rev. W. W. Sleeper into the hands of New Hampshire-born, Boston-based composer Amy Beach, who would go on to feature it in her large scale 1904 composition for piano, Variations on Balkan Themes. This was a year-long research project conducted under the guidance of UNH musicology professor Rose Pruiksma. Nathan will be applying for a Fulbright grant in the hopes of traveling to Bulgaria to conduct further study on revolutionary folk song.

Adviser: Rose Pruiksma

Student Composers Concert

The UNH Student Composers Concert is an annual event that features the music of undergraduate and graduate students of the Music Department. The music is newly composed and is almost exclusively performed by fellow music students. The concert this year featured compositions by Nathan Faro, Katja Kleyensteuber, Frank Noah, Dario Fiorentini, and Paul Cravens.

One of Nathan’s compositions, entitled Chorale for brass quintet, was performed by the student chamber ensemble, The Ambrassadors, pictured above.

Adviser: Michael Annicchiarico

Dominic Ryder

Music Education

Performance and Analysis of Iannis Xenakis’s Rebonds B

Percussionist Dominic Ryder undertook an honors capstone project in which he studied Iannis Xenakis’s Rebonds B, for solo percussion. Dominic’s work involved a biographical and historical investigation of the composer and the work, as well as an in-depth analysis of the music. In addition, Dominic prepared and performed the piece alongside his research in a lecture-recital. In the spring semester Dominic presented a revised version of his lecture-recital in the Museum of Art, as part of the Naked Arts component of the Undergraduate Research Conference.

Adviser: Ryan Vigil
Film composer Larry Groupé presented an in-depth look and discussion on the current state of composing in Hollywood. He has two Emmy awards to his credit for best documentary score: Jonas Salk: Personally Speaking, and Residue, a short subject film about the US early involvement in Cambodia. He has also composed music for a variety of features that have shown at the Sundance, Berlin, and Toronto International Festivals.

A graduate of the Conservatory of Music at the University of the Pacific, he began his senior year as the recipient of the ASCAP award for student composers. He went on to earn his Master of Music degree in Composition at the University of California at San Diego where he studied with Roger Reynolds, Toru Takemitsu and Pauline Oliveros. Subsequently, his composing, orchestrating and conducting skills took him to the world of film scoring where he won the New York Film Award for “Best Score.”

Larry’s lecture series circuit ranges from coast to coast and we were very pleased to be a part of his itinerary this year.

Continuing the Brazilian collaboration, Dr. Jenni Cook arranged a return engagement for soprano Yuka de Almeida Prado, accompanied by guitarist Gustavo Costa. The performance took place in February in the Verrette Recital Hall, followed by a master class. As an Assistant Professor of singing in the Music Department and as a member and co-founder of the Laboratory of Performance Science in Music (NAP-CIPEM) of the Faculdade de Filosofia, Ciências e Letras de Ribeirão Preto at University of São Paulo, Almeida Prado lectures in applied voice, vocal repertoire, vocal pedagogy, body expression, and chamber music. She completed her doctorate at the University of São Paulo where she studied cross-cultural aspects of Brazilian art song, especially those with Japanese features. Yuka presented her dissertation research as a lecture-recital at conferences in Portugal, Singapore, and Turkey. She also presented her research on the Science of Singing (speech pathology, pulmonology, health and well-being) in Canada, Austria, and Italy. She has publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals in addition to published book chapters. She is working on a book based on her doctoral thesis “Japanese poetics in Brazilian art song”.

Gustavo Costa received his Bachelor’s Degree in Music from the Arts Institute of São Paulo State University. He studied with guitarist Paul Galbraith. Dr. Costa’s international experience includes nearly six years of study in guitar performance with Franz Halász in Germany and Pablo Márquez in France. Professor Costa’s dissertation is on the arrangements of the violin music of Barték and J. S. Bach. He received a Doctoral Degree from the University of São Paulo in 2012. Dr. Costa is the head of Music Department of the Faculty of Philosophy, Sciences and Letters at Ribeirão Preto (FFCLRP – University of São Paulo), where he teaches guitar and viola caipira (ten-string guitar). The program included music of José Gustavo Julião de Camargo, Heitor Villa-Lobos, and Manuel de Falla and was made possible by grants from the Center for the Humanities and the Department of Music.
American Choral Directors Association New Hampshire Choral Director of the Year. He holds the degrees Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music in Choral Music from the University of Southern California, and Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Brigham Young University.

On October 14, as part of the New Hampshire Music Festival concert tour, the department was pleased to host trombonist David Loucky and pianist Dan Perkins. Dr. Loucky, a low brass specialist, performs on all low brass instruments. A faculty member at Middle Tennessee State University since 1989, he also performed for two seasons as Assistant Principal Trombonist with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. He has performed and lectured at several International Trombone Festivals, and International Tuba-Euphonium Conferences and served on the faculty of the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Arts. He is an active performer with the Nashville Symphony, the New Hampshire Music Festival, the Huntsville Symphony, the Stones River Chamber Players, the MTSU Faculty Jazz Combo, the Middle Tennessee Jazz Orchestra, the MTSU Faculty Brass Quintet, and the Nashville Chamber Brass.

Loucky performs on a period 19th century ophicleide, the predecessor of the tuba and euphonium. He engages in the research of repertoire for this instrument and collaborates with composers who are interested in writing new works for it.

Dr. Daniel Perkins is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Plymouth State University, where he was awarded the first Stevens-Bristow Distinguished Professorship. He was recently honored as the 2011

The Music History faculty, with the help and support of Department Chair Nic Orovich, arranged a visit from former UNH Professor, Mark DeVoto. His lecture centered on Alban Berg’s Altenberg Lieder.
Arlene Kies Wins Kennedy Center Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award

Mentor and Maestro

“My friend Jayne Segedy ’13 and I mutually decided that Arlene was one of the best teachers in the country and that we ought to nominate her.” So explains Valerie Peters ’10, a music education alumna who nominated Murkland lecturer and pianist Arlene Kies for the Kennedy Center Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award, a national award for teachers who have had an extraordinary impact on students. Kies was notified earlier this month that she is one of thirteen educators to receive a 2015 award, which includes a $10,000 grant. Recipients and their nominators are showcased on the Kennedy Center’s website.

“I was pleased to hear that Arlene won, and I am happy to think that I brought the Kies family some good news,” says Peters. “There is no way I could ever thank Arlene enough for what she has done for me.”

What Kies has done for Peters and many other students over the past 20 years at UNH is give them her full commitment and energy—in studio piano, ensemble, and methods courses; in her Piano Extension Program, where she helps students hone their teaching skills; and as a ubiquitous accompanist for concerts and recitals. For Peters, Kies’s empathy as a teacher was transformative, helping her develop her piano technique to a high level.

At the same time, Kies has always maintained a busy professional calendar, performing 40-50 concerts a year as a recitalist, concert soloist, and chamber pianist. Last year, Kies was the featured soloist with the Portsmouth Symphony in a performance of Rachmaninoff’s “Third Piano Concerto,” widely thought to be one of the most technically difficult piano pieces in existence. This isn’t the first time that Kies has been recognized for her excellence as a teacher and artist. In addition to fellowships through the Fulbright Foundation, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, and the New England Foundation for the Arts, Kies won a 2012 Teaching Excellence Award at UNH. In describing Kies’s teaching prowess, Kenneth Fuld, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said: “Arlene is tireless, boundless in enthusiasm, genuinely passionate about nearly everything, and totally—and importantly—equally dedicated to her gifted and not-so-gifted students. She has been described as the heart and soul of the Music Department.”

Noted composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim frequently attributes his success to the teachers in his life, a driving factor behind the establishment of the Kennedy Center awards. “Teachers define us,” stated Sondheim in a statement released by the Kennedy Center. “In our early years, when we are still being formed, they often see in us more than we see in ourselves, more even than our families see and, as a result, help us to evolve into what we ultimately become. Good teachers are touchstones to paths of achieving more than we might have otherwise accomplished, in directions we might not have gone.”

After reviewing the submissions of the winning teachers, Sondheim requested that for the first time in the program’s five years, a nominating student also receive a grant. UNH alumna Valerie Peters received an award for the outstanding nomination of Kies. Peters, a professional pianist, was born with an atypical cleft hand, with only a thumb and small finger on one hand. The first time she met Peters, Kies sat down at the piano and played with just her thumb and index finger. As Peters stated in her video submission, “It was the first time anyone had ever tried to get inside my body and feel what I felt when I played the piano.”

Peters, a music and movement teacher at an elementary school in Andover, Mass., says she was surprised and flattered but also somewhat uncomfortable about her own award. “That wasn’t what I was trying to do. At all.” she says emphatically. “I’ve never wanted recognition for being different. I was just a girl who wanted to play piano, and I needed Arlene to make it possible for me to play at such a high level.”

Susan Dumais ’88 ’02G

From The College Letter March, 2015

Watch nominating video on the Kennedy Center website:
http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/awards/sondheim/nominees15.cfm
New this Fall: Keith Polk Music Lecture Series

Established in 2015, the Keith Polk Music Lecture Series offers lectures each semester, from visiting scholars and UNH music department faculty. Polk, an emeritus faculty in the department, is one of the world’s pre-eminent scholars of Renaissance instrumental music. The series is co-sponsored by the UNH Center for the Humanities. All lectures are free and open to the public.

Rob Haskins
UNH Associate Professor of Music
John Cage and Zen: What Did He Know, When Did He Know It, and Why Should We Care?
Thursday, September 17, 2015

Tom Moore
Head of the Sound & Image Department of the Green Library
Florida International University
Fifty Unknown Flutists
Thursday, October 8, 2015

Kelli Minelli
UNH Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Recipient
University of New Hampshire Department of Music
Bernard Herrmann’s Opera: Narrative, Adaption, and Musical Connections in the Opera Wuthering Heights
Thursday, October 22, 2015

Seth Coluzzi
Assistant Professor of Musicology
Brandeis University
The First Songstress: The Fragmented History of Lucia Quinciani’s Monody of 1611
Thursday, November 19, 2015
Athletic Bands

The 2015 Wildcat Marching Band performed a show based on the board game Clue. Starting with Justin Timberlake’s Murder, the band simulated the crime by forming a body outline on the field. The suspects were then introduced through little vignettes for each character, surrounded by music from Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows. After each suspect was introduced, the drumline narrowed down the investigation and finally identified the culprit. Time rewound and we saw the crime happen out in the open and I Knew You Were Trouble by Taylor Swift rounded out the show. They had a lot of fun with the characters and the music for each and even had life-sized playing cards for each of the suspects.

Performances included the second annual New England Collegiate Marching Band Festival (this year at Central Connecticut State University), a MICCA show at Salem (MA) High School, the annual Dover (NH) Band Show, Woburn Halloween Parade, and the usual on-campus performances such as the Cat Pack Kick-Off, Blue and White Homecoming Parade, and the WMB on ICE hockey game. The away trip was the band’s first visit to Stony Brook University. Their marching band visited UNH in their first year of existence back in 2006. While the game didn’t end in UNH’s favor, the two bands had a great time interacting with each other and doing the wave together.

The 2014 football season was the longest in WMB history! The band performed at the most home games ever, thanks to our #1 ranking heading into playoffs. The team earned a first-round bye, but the second round, quarterfinal, and semifinal games were all played at home. There were some cold and snowy games, but the band kept warm by cheering extra hard and keeping the Wildcat Pride going through all those games. The cases upon cases of hand warmers didn’t hurt, either! It was a tough loss in the semifinals, but it was exciting to at least begin talks with the athletic department about the logistics of traveling to the national championship game in Texas. We hope they’ll get to carry out those plans in the near future.

It was the first season under the new field lights, which allow for night games. Band members appreciated being able to sleep in a bit more on Saturdays and attendance at games went way up. 2014 Band Day was their first night game, so they played Light ‘em Up by Fall Out Boy with the massed band. Construction on the new stadium is well underway and they look forward to performing in it beginning in 2016. Visit http://unhstadium.com for more information.

The band’s January trip to Walt Disney World and Universal Studios was a huge success. Travel went smoothly, the
Concert Bands

Last year was another terrific one for the concert bands at UNH. The Wind Symphony recorded and released the latest compact disc recording in their series featuring the music of specific composers. This time the ensemble recorded works by one of our own: The Music of Michael Annicchiarico was released in early fall 2015 and can be obtained by contacting Dr. Boysen. The CD includes five works by Professor Annicchiarico.

The Wind Symphony also said goodbye to two conducting graduate students, Sean Meagher and Dan Fryburg, who each conducted significant works with the ensemble during the year. Sean conducted Mark Camphouse’s Watchman, Tell Us of the Night and Dan led the ensemble in George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue, featuring UNH alum Sivan Etedjee as the piano soloist.

Other highlights for the Wind Symphony included the premier performance of March the Eighteenth, composed by graduate student Paul Cravens, and Cecile Chaminade’s Concertino, with 2015 Concerto Competition winner, Abigail Rienzo, flute.

The Beast of the East Band restructured last year and moved away from the multiple band system. Instead, members signed up for a specific number of games each semester. While it required a bit more individual responsibility, it helped attendance problems due to the reduced need for subs. This new system was kept in place this year.

The men’s hockey team made it to Hockey East semifinals in 2015, so members of the band traveled to the Garden for playoff action. The band also traveled to Albany for men’s basketball America East semifinals. Our alumni pep band continued to be a saving grace when there were scheduling conflicts, so keep an eye out for future calls if you’d like to come back and play.

We are still using our new mailing list system, so please visit http://bit.ly/wmbalumni to join if you have not already done so. If you’re on Facebook, please join the UNH Wildcat Marching Band Alumni group at http://www.facebook.com/groups/UNHWMBA/.

To keep tabs on what’s going on with ALL of the UNH bands, bookmark our website at http://bands.unh.edu/. If you would like to donate to the WMB, please visit http://giving.unh.edu/marchingband. As usual, please feel free to visit the band whenever you’re at a UNH sporting event. We’d love to catch up with you!

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To keep tabs on what’s going on with ALL of the UNH bands, bookmark our website at http://bands.unh.edu/. If you would like to donate to the WMB, please visit http://giving.unh.edu/marchingband. As usual, please feel free to visit the band whenever you’re at a UNH sporting event. We’d love to catch up with you!
The University Symphony Orchestra opened the 2015-16 season with a performance on October 20, 2015, featuring two exciting and energetic works: Beethoven’s youthful and inventive Symphony No. 1 in C major, Op. 21, and Arturo Márquez’s scintillating Danzón No. 2. In December, the orchestra began what we hope will become a series of collaborations with the UNH Dance Department. On Sunday, December 6th they joined forces to present excerpts from Tchaikovsky’s beloved ballet, The Nutcracker. UNH graduate conducting student Ashley Paradis led the orchestra in two movements from Tchaikovsky’s Suite No. 4, Op. 61, Mozartiana.

The spring semester will feature the biannual collaboration with the UNH Opera program on April 15 and 16, 2016. Dr. Jenni Cook will direct the opera students in selected scenes and arias, and Dr. David Upham will conduct the performances. The orchestra’s spring 2016 concert performances will be on Thursday, March 3rd and Thursday, April 28th at 8:00 pm. The winner of the UNH Music Department’s annual concerto competition will perform in one of the spring concerts, with other repertoire to be announced. Stay in touch with the UNH Music Department website for more details.

NHASTA-UNH Fall Orchestra Festival & String Teachers Conference

The New Hampshire chapter of the American String Teachers Association again collaborated with the UNH Orchestra program to present the Fall Orchestra Festival, held on the UNH campus on Saturday, October 17, 2015. This festival is an outreach activity of both organizations, and seeks to provide high-school-aged string students with a full orchestra experience. Over 90 students applied to the festival and were placed in one of two groups, based upon their teacher’s recommendation. The Festival Orchestra was led by Dr. Walter Pavasaris, who serves as the conductor of the Northeast Massachusetts Youth Orchestra and teaches at the Boston Conservatory, the Berklee College of Music, and Gordon College. The Chamber Orchestra was led by Dr. Upham.

On the same day, over 20 current and future string music educators met in the PCAC for the first annual NHASTA-UNH String Teachers Conference. Attendees were able to choose from five sessions presented by UNH string faculty members Liesl Schoenberger-Doty (violin/viola), Emileigh Vandiver (cello) and John Hunter (string bass). Additionally, composer and improver Andy Reiner brought his talents and his fiddle to the conference and presented two sessions, including the keynote session on freedom, spontaneity and creativity in improvisation.

UNH’s violin & viola instructor, Liesl Schoenberger-Doty, leads Fall Orchestra Festival students in singing and movement exercises

UNH cello instructor, Emileigh Vandiver, inspires Fall Festival students, pictured here with Dr. David Upham
The youth symphony program began as an opportunity for young local string players to gain orchestral experience, and for UNH music education students to receive guided practice in teaching and coaching. Anyone who is interested in auditioning, or who would like more information about the youth orchestra program, should contact Dr. David Upham at David.Upham@unh.edu.

UNH Youth Symphony Orchestras

The UNH Youth Symphony Orchestra program continues to grow and thrive. The youth symphony concluded its second season with a concert in early May 2015. That performance culminated in an arrangement of Rimsky-Korsakov’s Capriccio Espagnol that featured all ages and levels of the youth symphony string students, accompanied by UNH woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians. This fall, Dr. Upham and the youth symphony coaches heard over 60 students audition for this program, which is now entering its third year.

The UNH Youth Symphony Orchestras gave their first performance of the 2015-2016 year on Sunday, November 22nd. The youth orchestras will continue throughout the year and will end the year with a concert on Sunday, May 8, 2016, at 6:00 pm.
Opera Workshop

The Year of Puccini

Each year the opera seems to out-do itself; each time the students bring such original energy to the productions that they seem totally fresh and unique. This past year the Opera Workshop embarked on a journey that was deeply satisfying and even surprising: an entire year devoted to the great Italian, Giacomo Puccini.

The fall production was a version of *La Bohème*, comprised of major scenes from all four acts. Of course anyone who knows Italian opera and this piece will immediately realize the presumption of excellent singing that this works requires. And they had it! The superb quartet of principle characters was outstanding: Eric Berthiaume as Rodolpho, Gwendolyn Trott as Mimi, Colin Geaghan as Marcelo, and Courtney Magoon as the volatile Musetta. Singers also included Brett Branscombe (Colline), Sam Bradley (Schaunard), Ben Touchette (Alcindoro), Joey Hendricks, Rachel Burke, Jonna Dozet and Morgan King, (Musetta and Mimi respectively in Act III,) Rebekah Londoﬀ, Katherine Perkoski, seven members of Kappa Kappa Psi, and six children from the Moharimet School for the crowd scene of Act II. Kelli Minelli both sang and beautifully narrated a synopsis for continuity of the storyline.

In the spring, Joseph Harris, new and welcome among our UNH singers, starred as Gianni Schicchi in a tremendous performance of this wonderful opera. Joe was outrageously engaging and funny, a natural born actor-singer. As there were not quite enough men to fill out the roles, women ably stepped in for a unique version of this famous piece. The cast included Nathan Wotton (Rinuccio) Eric Berthiaume (Gherardo), Rebekah Londoﬀ (Nella), Jessica Ross (Gherardino), Amanda Roswick (Betto), Aliza Cilley (Simone), Emma Donahue (Marco), Rachel Burke (La Ciesca), Benjamin Touchette (Master Spinelloccio) and Colin Geaghan (Amantio di Nicolao, Lawyer). The photograph is of Buoso Donati’s extended family reading his will, soon followed by hilarity and utter pandemonium.

Following are some responses from appreciative audience members and families:

“I wanted to take this opportunity to send you a short note letting you know how much I enjoyed the recent production of *Highlights from La Bohème*. I must say, that “highlights” does not quite do justice to what was accomplished here. Finally, and most importantly, the singers really inhabited the music. I felt that I was not witnessing students “managing” to perform the music accurately and competently; but rather was I seeing musicians executing difficult music with confidence and dramatic understanding. It was immensely satisfying to see such
a high level of accomplishment in terms of conception and execution.

-Dr. Ryan Vigil

“I just wanted to say thank you for all your work with the Oyster River kids in La Bohème. Though my boys were skeptical at first, tonight after the performance they asked if they could do it again next year! They had a great time! And they were exposed to some terrific UNH talent and experienced their first opera. They understood all of it. I also was hoping you could pass on our thanks to your students. They were PHENOMENAL with our kids.”

-Katie Fiermonti
Mother of Moharimet students.

“Dear President Huddleston,

Last Thursday I was on my way to a student chamber music recital when I noticed activity in the Bratton room. David Ripley and his Opera Workshop were putting the final touches on this semester’s production, Puccini’s La Bohème and, intending to listen to a few bars before going on to a recital, I stayed until 10:00 p.m., mesmerized by the music, the interaction between teacher and student. What I was privileged to witness was not the realization of someone’s preconceived idea of a performance, but a vibrant interplay between master and students, with each taking impulses from the other. I have heard La Bohème in many of the world’s leading opera houses, with more polished voices and more extravagant staging, but never with the immediacy, the fervor, the dedication evinced by Prof. Ripley and his devoted band of “bohemians”.

-Karl Arndt, UNH retired visiting lecturer
UNH Choirs

Concert Choir & Chamber Singers

The last year has seen some noteworthy choral performances by the UNH choirs. Highlights for the Concert Choir included a fine Beethoven Mass in C Major in December, repeated (with 180 extra High School singers) at the 15th annual UNH Choral Gala in January. The Concert Choir also performed the Fauré Requiem in October, along with the premiere of Mike Annicchiarico's Fellow Travelers.

In the spring, the group performed two vastly different programs, the first with a spirituals-based theme, African Roots, and the second, all of the choruses from Händel's Messiah. To perform all of the choruses in a row in one concert was a challenge for the choir, but one which they embraced with admirable gusto.

The UNH Chamber Singers presented three main programs during the year, as well as a two performances for the Morse Hall Concert Series. The 'big' pieces in the first program were William Byrd's Mass for Three Voices and Clare Maclean's Et Misericordia. The second program, presented in early February, was a popular classics one, extremely well-received by a packed audience in the Bratton Recital Hall. The Chamber Singers rounded out their year with a mixed program, culminating in a performance of Martin Wesley-Smith's riotous Who Killed Cock Robin?. This piece combines just about every style imaginable, from atonality to almost Doo-wop, and, despite its hilarious intent, is fiendishly difficult. The Chamber Singers pulled it off with style, however, and the performance was highly appreciated by the audience.

UNH Chamber Singers Perform with Josh Groban

Over the years, UNH choirs have been asked to provide back-up for a number of notable popular artists: Kenny Rogers, Barry Manilow and, in 2009, for the Boston and Manchester (NH) legs of the world-wide tour of Star Wars in Concert, which featured the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra from Great Britain. Early in October of this year, Professor Kempster was contacted by Steve Trudell, the promoter responsible for the organization of Star Wars in Concert, to put together a 20-voice choir to back renowned singer Josh Groban in two of the stops on his nationwide Stages tour: at the Wang Theater in Boston, and the Performing Arts Center in Providence, RI.

The UNH Chamber singers travelled to Boston on September 25 and to Providence on October 2 to sing with Josh in the closing number to each half of his show: Anthem, from Chess, and You’ll Never Walk Alone, from Carousel. Despite the long hours sitting around doing very little on both days, it was a real thrill to be able to sing for sold-out audiences of 3,600 and 3,100 people (respectively) in these famous venues, and the Chamber Singers had a great time. The photo was taken at the Wang Theater when Josh came down to talk to the choir and thank us for being there just prior to the first show.

Alumni Choral Ensemble in Germany

In July, members of Cappella Nova Mundi (CNM), Dr. Kempster’s specialized a cappella vocal ensemble, made up of alumni of the UNH Choral Program, travelled to Germany to compete in the European Choir Games, held in Magdeburg. Magdeburg was the home base of Baroque composer Georg Philipp Telemann, and is a beautiful and vibrant example of how many former East German cities have been restored to previous glory after German reunification. The city also contains the oldest and most well-preserved cathedral in Germany.

CNM won Gold and Silver medals in the competition part of the trip, but perhaps even more satisfying was the opportunity to present two other
concerts, the first in Schönebeck, a smaller city outside of Magdeburg, and the second at the Thomaskirche in Leipzig, which was Johann Sebastian Bach’s church for a long period of his life. The concert we gave at the Thomaskirche was a profoundly moving experience for the whole group, standing as we were just a few yards from Bach’s grave, and ending our performance with his amazing motet *Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden*. The church was filled with tourists from all over the world for our performance, and we were all very touched by the wonderful reception they gave us. The photo here shows the group outside the church after the concert. Visit CNM’s website: http://cappellanovamundi.weebly.com
Professor Cook was one of thirty-seven invited foreign experts to present at the “1st International Week Conference” at Chengdu University in China. While on campus at Chengdu, Cook gave an impromptu master class with three voice majors, their voice teachers, and other students and faculty in the music department, in addition to conducting a site visit toward the possible development of an exchange between CDU and UNH.
In Memoriam
Dr. Clark Terry
(1920-2015)

by Professor Emeritus David Seiler and Professor Robert Stibler

Clark Terry, jazz trumpeter, pioneer in jazz education, and mentor to generations of UNH musicians, died on February 21, 2015. CT, as we knew him, was one of the most beloved and influential jazz musicians of his, or any, generation. He held the distinction of having been a soloist in the bands of Count Basie (1948–1951) and Duke Ellington (1951–1959). (CT used to say that he’d attended the University of “Ellingtonia.”) In 1960 he became the first black musician to be a regular member of the NBC studio orchestra, and was known to many as an often-featured member of the Tonight Show Band.

CT’s history with UNH began in 1975, when he was the guest artist at the UNH Jazz Festival. In 1976 the UNH Band, with CT as soloist, was the first collegiate band ever to appear on an evening performance at the famous Montreux Jazz Festival, and he began a decades-long teaching and performing relationship with UNH. In 1978 the University awarded CT an honorary doctorate, and the UNH Jazz Festival was renamed in his honor. UNH granted a special adjunct faculty appointment in 1988 and, in 2002, CT was the recipient of the Pettee Award. He continued to visit campus regularly, as long as his health permitted.

CT was a brilliant trumpet and flugelhorn player, an inspirational jazz musician, a natural and dedicated teacher, a fine exemplar in his personal life and business practices, and a wonderful, warm human being. His presence at UNH had a profound effect on us all and we miss him greatly.

R.I.P CT

On May 14, 1978 Clark Terry received an Honorary Degree conferred by President Eugene Mills

Hooding by David W. Ellis, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Allan B. Prince, Vice President, Budget and Administration
Jazz Highlights

Traditional Jazz Series 2015-2016

Dick Oatts Quintet
September 14

Jimmy Cobb Trio
October 12

Bram Wijnands Trio
November 9

Mark Turner Quartet
February 1

Christian McBride Trio
February 29

Michael Weiss Quartet
April 4

Clark Terry Jazz Festival 2015

Jazz Fest 2015 featured guests Bobby Watson, saxophone, Terell Stafford, trumpet, and Christine Fawson, vocalist.
This year, professor of music David Seiler was named the University Distinguished Professor, a high honor reserved for only a handful of the University’s faculty. As it happens, Dave is retiring at the close of the academic year after serving for 43 years on the UNH faculty. He took his curtain call as a Professor of Music last month in his final celebratory concert with the 3 O’clock Jazz Band on the Johnson Theatre stage. Undoubtedly, given both his singular talent and devotion to the jazz idiom, Dave has many more concerts ahead of him as a Professor Emeritus.

I will leave it to others — legions of musicians, students, music colleagues, alumni, and jazz fans — to give voice to the musician in Dave Seiler. I choose to give voice to the humanity in him. Dave Seiler is simply one of the finest human beings I have ever known.

Is he demanding of the students under his wing? Yes. Is he blunt in the expression of his take on talent or performance? Yes. Is he singularly devoted to the life of jazz in this world? No one would doubt that devotion. Is he that rare life force that changes everything in his presence? He absolutely is, and that force lingers among all of us even when he is not present. Dave Seiler “is.” And Dave Seiler “will be” for generations to come.

My music colleagues delight in the rich lore of “Seilerisms.” In truth, his legendary malapropisms have a rhythm logic to them. Once, many years ago, Dave arrived in the department office wearing a new suit he had purchased. A colleague remarked that it fit him well. “Fits me like a clock,” Dave deadpanned.

Time marches on. Dave keeps its beat. No matter where you are in the years ahead, if you listen closely, you can hear the sweet music that Dave makes in this world.
UNH Chamber Music Project Rolls On

The UNH Chamber Music Project visited three high schools on November 5, 2015: Portsmouth, Exeter, and Winnacunnet. The groups that performed were the senior sax quartet, a brass quintet, vocal quartet with piano, and a violin/clarinet/piano trio. The February 2 and 8, 2016 visits were to Hollis-Brookline, Bow, Epping, Dover, Somersworth, and Farmington. Groups featured were a woodwind quintet, clarinet quintet, percussion duo, and vocal jazz sextet. The UNH students played a short program and then answered questions about college life, chamber music, studying music in college, and UNH. Faculty members Peggy Vagts and Elizabeth Gunlogson, as well as Academic Department Coordinator Alexis Zaricki, accompanied the students. The sax quartet was such a hit that they did a short tour of their own on December 15 to Bishop Guertin and Manchester Memorial high schools.

Clarinet Studio

Dr. Elizabeth Gunlogson’s clarinet studio had the distinct pleasure of meeting renowned clarinetist, Richard Stoltzman in Concord, NH at the Concord City Auditorium in April.

Clarinet students with Richard Stoltzman in Concord, NH
I to r: Emily Silva, Dr Elizabeth Gunlogson, Lee DeOrsey, Domenic DiPalermo, Danielle Janos, Kelsey Gallagher, Sam Bradley, Jennifer Ollari Barry, and Pam Choinski
Visiting Scholar Ben Amakye Boateng

Ben Amakye-Boateng came to UNH as part of an agreement with the University of Ghana, in which we host occasional semester or year-long visits by UG faculty who come here to finish dissertations. UNH has a study-abroad program in Ghana, and UNH students can go for a semester, studying various subjects, including music. Ben was working on an ethnomusical study of the music of the Tabom, an Afro-Brazilian community in Ghana. The Tabom were originally freed slaves who left Brazil and settled in Ghana. While he was here, Ben, who has experience in choral music, also worked with Voices from the Heart, a choral group in Portsmouth, and made some class visits in the Department of Music.
Double Reed Day News

Guest artists for Double Reed Day 2015 were Becky Eldredge, bassoon and Neil Boyer, oboe. Becky presented a class on reed-making, enhanced by the use of a camera attached to her hands and projected on a large screen overhead so that all could see the details of her work. Neil Boyer worked with students on orchestral excerpts and solos. The day was attended by over 100 double reed players.

Sospiri, with Margaret Herlehy (oboe), Janet Polk (bassoon) Christopher Kies (piano), and guest artist, Douglas Worthen (flute) presented their annual recital in the afternoon.

A New Approach

On January 16, 2016 the halls and classrooms of Paul Creative Arts were filled with oboists and bassoonists from all over the Northeast to attend the 18th Annual Double Reed Day. Coordinators Janet Polk and Margaret Herlehy were excited to bring a chamber music focus to this year’s event, with more playing opportunities for all attending instrumentalists. In addition to the vendors, reed-making, faculty concert and double reed bands, recitals featuring local school, alumni and area professional ensembles including double reeds were presented. Coaching and master classes were available for emerging double reed players.

UNH alum Sharon Phipps presented a workshop for music educators entitled Double the Reed, Double the Fun. Sharon’s commitment, motivation and skill are reflected in her extraordinary, award-winning Belmont MA Public School Double Reed ensembles.

Happy 70th Birthday SYMS!

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the SYMS program. Look for the new logo, designed by UNH alum Erik Evensen ‘01.

Congratulations to oboist Cameron Ward, winner of the four year, full-tuition, scholarship for 2015
New Faculty Recordings

Associate professor of music and soprano Jenni Cook has released a new CD featuring Brazilian Art Song with Lisa Raposa Millar ’99, a freelance pianist and educator. The CD, titled Terra e Granito, contains 17 selections sung in Portuguese with English translations provided in the liner notes. The project was inspired by Melody Chapin, a former student of Cook who studied Art Song in Brazil through the UNH International Research Opportunities Program, and later, a Fulbright. Additional inspiration came via Cook’s connections with Yuka de Almeida Prado, a music professor at the University of São Paulo in Ribeirão-Preto, who specializes in the genre.

Terra e Granito is available on Amazon, CD Baby, and iTunes.

In May of 2015, Resident Artist Margaret Herlehy released her debut solo album Café 1930. This recording is the culmination of a two-year collaboration with UNH Jazz/Classical Guitar teacher, David Newsam, exploring the oboe as a lead voice in the popular instrumental music of South America. The core rhythm section centers around guitarist David Newsam, Boston-based Brazilian musicians Henrique Eisenmann on piano, and percussionist Anna Santos. Brazilian flutist Fernando Brandão performs in close dialogue with the oboe on two of the choro pieces to round out the ensemble.

The CD includes Choro Standards, the evocative and lyrical Tango, Café 1930 from Astor Piazzolla’s History of the Tango, and selections from Musiques Populaires Brésiliennes by Celso Machado. Performing with guitar, piano, pandeiro and flute in traditional settings, Margaret incorporates the qualities of her instrument to bring a freshness to this genre. Café 1930 is available for download on iTunes.

The University of New Hampshire Wind Symphony, conducted by Andrew Boysen Jr., has released a CD of the compositions of UNH music professor Michael Annicchiarico. Recorded at UNH in October of last year, the CD features 14 pieces grouped in four thematic categories: mythologies, landscapes, Chelmsford Common, and “…that which feeds the soul.”

Annicchiarico has composed works for film, orchestra, band, chorus and chamber ensembles, and has arranged numerous pieces for jazz band and jazz choir. His music has been performed by the University of Ohio Wind Ensemble and the Rutgers University Symphony Band, and his jazz arrangements have been performed by a variety of groups, including the Jazz Heritage Orchestra of Cleveland. His score for the 1929 silent film Iron Mask was premiered live by the UNH Wind Symphony (Andrew Boysen, conductor) in October, 2009. Currently, Annicchiarico is at work on an opera about World War II.

The Music of Michael Annicchiarico is available on Amazon and iTunes.
Faculty News

Michael Annicchiarico
This summer and fall Mike Annicchiarico has been reworking his film score to Safety Last!, a silent film made in 1923 starring Harold Lloyd. Mike composed the score in 2006 and performed it live with his musician friend, Dave Kontak, at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord, NH. In 2010 he rescored the piece for four players in order to involve his son, Joe, and two other UNH music majors, Brett Gallo and Andy Riordan. The new version was premiered in October, 2010 at Red River Theaters, also in Concord. The latest reworking of the piece is an attempt to approximate a theater orchestra one might find in one of the big movie houses of the 1920’s. The new version is scored for four woodwinds, four brass, strings, piano and percussion. Mike has spoken to Dr. David Upham about a live performance by the UNH Orchestra some time in the future. Stay tuned.

Jenni Cook
Performing highlights from last spring include concerts with flutist Peggy Vagts at Regents University in London and the National Welsh Museum in Cardiff, Wales. Professor Cook worked with staff at UNH and at Cardiff University to begin a student exchange between the two institutions in the music area. In spring of 2016, the first students from both institutions will be studying abroad on exchange for the semester.

In September, Professors Vagts and Cook gave a reprisal of their Cardiff concert, kicking off the UNH Faculty Concert Series. Both will be performing on Professor Ryan Vigil’s faculty recital on Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 8 p.m. Dr. Cook also joined Professor Robert Stibler on his faculty recital at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, NH.

Off campus, Professor Cook was the soprano soloist in Respighi’s Lauda per la Natività del Signore with the Concord Chorale, under the direction of Kristofer Johnson. Performances were held in Concord and Exeter, NH. Cook and Raposa Millar will give the debut performance recital of the Brazilian Art Song featured on their new CD Terra e Granito on the St. Andrew’s Church Concert Series in Toronto, Canada in May of 2016.

Rob Haskins
Rob Haskins finished his ninth year at the University of New Hampshire, Department of Music with a number of activities. In scholarship, two articles (on Cage and Progressive Composers) were published in the encyclopedia Music in American Life (ABC-CLIO). His article on Cage in Oxford Bibliographies Online was accepted; another, “Differing Musical Evocations of Buddhism in Works by Robert Morris and John Cage,” is in press at Perspectives of New Music as well as a chapter in a forthcoming volume called New Perspectives on the Work of John Cage, edited by Anne de Fornel.

He continues work on the book Piano (contracted for Reaktion Books) and the co-edited essay collection “‘Each is at the Center’: Essays for the John Cage Centenary”; he has also submitted another manuscript, “Bach and Cage Walk into a Studio and Other Stories: Selected Reviews from American Record Guide, 1993–2013” for consideration by Rowman and Littlefield.

Haskins was a featured speaker on the Honors Lecture Series at Nazareth College; he also spoke at the Eastman School of Music and at the University of Connecticut, and performed and spoke at the University of Maryland University College School of Music.

In artistic work, Rob performed Bryars’s My First Homage (1978) and Pender’s Variations for Two Pianos (1985), with Scott Pender, on his faculty recital February 15, 2014. The program also included Morris’s Still (2000), Pender’s Variations for Oboe and Piano (with Margaret Herlehy) and two movements from Cote’s Gloria (with David Ripley).

In service, he joined the newly formed Graduate Committee and continued work on Planning and Academic Affairs Committee. He began to serve as a member of the College of Liberal Arts Policies Committee and on the Performing and Fine Arts Division Committee for the College of Liberal Arts. He was a manuscript referee for
William Kempster

Dr. Kempster’s edition of Pierre de la Rue’s Missa Pourquoi non, a Mass which, in a forthcoming paper to be published next year, Dr. Kempster suggests has been misnamed as Missa Almana, was performed in Holland on August 27, 2015 by an extraordinary all-male quartet at a festival celebrating the great Renaissance scribe Petrus Alamire.

Christopher Kies

This past year Chris enjoyed working on a variety of musical projects, the majority of which involved making chamber music arrangements of music composed in the 19th century, principally works by Johannes Brahms. Arranging piano pieces by Brahms for various instrumental duos has been a preoccupation of his for at least two and a half years now. As of the summer of 2015, he has completed 16 such arrangements for clarinet and piano, 16 for alto saxophone and piano, 8 for oboe and piano, 2 for viola and piano, 1 for bassoon and piano, and, perhaps the most personally gratifying for him, a collection of 30 pieces for violin and piano. This latter collection was made in collaboration with his friend, Paul MacDowell, a freelance violinist in the Boston area. Mr. MacDowell provided Chris with suggested bowings and fingerings for the violin parts for all 30 pieces, and the complete collection will be published later this year by Veritas Musica Publishing, Inc.

Other projects from the past year include the complete String Quartet, Opus 135 in F Major by Beethoven, arranged for saxophone quartet (SATB), and the complete Dolly Suite, Opus 56, for piano four-hands, by Gabriel Fauré, arranged for oboe, bassoon and piano. Chris had the pleasure of performing the Fauré arrangement with his friends and colleagues, Margaret Herlehy and Janet Polk, for the 2015 Double Reed Day at UNH.

He also enjoyed collaborating with UNH music alumna, Valerie Peters, who teaches chorus and general music at West Elementary School in Andover, MA. The mini-residency included rehearsing with the choruses, for whom Chris had composed two pieces; speaking to general music classes about composers and composition; and giving two performances of his composition, Amos and Boris, for flute, tuba (or bass trombone), piano, and narrator. He was very fortunate to have been joined in these performances by UNH alumni Ellen Rondina ’97(flute) and Crystal Carr (tuba), and the inimitable UNH music professor, David Ripley (narrator).

The project from the past year that was most memorable was co-producing with Professor David Ripley a two-CD set of voice and piano music entitled Wohin. The editing and mastering of these CDs took place over several months in 2015, although the music had been recorded in 2007 by David Ripley and Arlene Kies. The beautiful cover art, shown on page 3, was created by Antonietta Kies.

Susan Noseworthy

Our own Susan Noseworthy, adjunct faculty member (Elementary Music Education), has won the Eustis Award in recognition of her work in the Exeter Unified School District as an outstanding...
educator. She plays an important role as part of our music education faculty and we congratulate her on this achievement.

Nicholas Orovich

Nic Orovich is completed his fourth year as Chair of the Department of Music and continues to teach the low brass studio. During the 2014-15 season as principal trombone of the Portland Symphony, Nic was one of the PSO’s featured soloists performing Frank Martin’s Concerto for Seven Winds, Timpani, and Strings. Other highlights were performances of Berlioz’s Symphony Fantastique, Brahms’ Symphony No. 3, Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 12, and Beethoven’s Symphony No. 6, the “Pastorale”.

This past May Nic and his wife Jeremy traveled for two weeks in France, Switzerland, and Italy. One of the stops included a stay in Montreux, Switzerland, where 40 years ago Nic attended L’Institut de Hautes Etudes Musicales. The accompanying picture was taken from the promenade along Lake Geneva in Montreux.

Professor Robert Stibler with current and former students Brandon Duras, Jamie Boccia, Cody Knapp, Tasha Jost, and Matt Zettler

Robert Stibler

On October 5, 2014 Dr. Stibler, with organist Abbey Siegfried and bass-baritone David Ripley, presented a concert entitled Breath of the Absolute, at St. John’s Church in Portsmouth, N.H. The concert featured music associated with a number of the world’s great spiritual traditions. Between musical pieces the audience heard members of the trumpet studio sound a variety of “ancestral” trumpets, including the Ghanaian side blown trumpet, Oceanic side and end blown conch trumpets, the Aboriginal didgeridoo, the Buddhist Rag-dung, and the Hindu Ransingha. Dr. Stibler also performed a number of times this year with a rhythm section of alumnus Charlie Blood ’72/’77, piano, and resident artist John Hunter, bass, including a June program on the Newcastle Summer Concert Series. August 2014 marked the 8th annual Trumpet Weeks at Summerkeys, an adult music camp in Lubec, Maine. In 2015 Dr. Stibler and alum Adam Gallant ’08/’12 created the UNH Trumpet Studio Facebook Group. This has proven to be a wonderful resource for connecting past, present, and even prospective studio members, so if you are a UNH trumpet grad, or a friend of the studio, please join us on Facebook.

Nic at the L’Institut de Hautes Etudes Musicales

Mark Zielinski, Nic Orovich, Bob Stibler, and Trent Austin ’97 checking out Trent’s new CNC mouthpiece machine at Austin Custom Brass
Peter Urquhart

Peter Urquhart took part in the conference “Laus Polyphoniae 2015: Petrus Alamire Meerstemmigheid in beeld” in Antwerp at the end of August. The conference was centered on the 50-odd music manuscripts created by the scriptorium of the Hapsburg rulers, Margaret of Austria and Emperor Charles V, which was run by the scribe, musician, and occasional international spy, Petrus Alamire. The 50 manuscripts are the most lavish of the Renaissance period, and were distributed throughout Europe as the music of Franco-flemish composers became the international style c. 1500.

The conference had two parts, a scholarly component of papers and workshops, and a performance component involving ensembles from all over Europe and the United States, including the Huelgas Ensemble, the Tallis Scholars, Stile Antico, New York Polyphony, and many others, all singing music derived from Alamire manuscripts. Prof. Urquhart gave two lectures on the music, and directed a rehearsal of a group reading directly from manuscript facsimiles. Professor Emeritus Keith Polk was also present with a lecture on the instrumental music of the period. UNH was well represented.

Prof. Urquhart founded his ensemble Capella Alamire a few years before the Alamire Foundation began in Belgium. They have regularly sung from facsimiles of Alamire manuscripts, including most recently a mass by Noel Baudeweyn this past January. Baudeweyn has recently been rediscovered in archival records to have been the chapel master at the Antwerp Cathedral, where part of the conference took place.

After decades of musicological doubt, Noel Baudeweyn has been reconfirmed as present from 1512–17. Peter is currently in the throes of editing tapes of the recording sessions on Baudeweyn’s mass Du bon du cueur, and related motets and chansons, performed by Capella Alamire and the Department’s Alamire Consort.

Peggy Vagts

Peggy Vagts returned in August from her year teaching for the UNH London Program; she enjoyed teaching music appreciation and “women in music” courses to international students, including those from China, Tunisia, Cambodia, Dubai, the Netherlands, Thailand, Mexico, Algeria, France, Norway and elsewhere. She and UNH colleague Jenni Cook performed a program for soprano, flute, and piano at the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff and at Arts Week at Regent’s University in London. After returning to the states in August, Peggy was “the bird” for a performance of Peter and the Wolf with the Portsmouth Symphony and a soloist on Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 4 with White Mountain Musical Arts. Peggy is happy to be back home and teaching her flute students.

Larry Veal

Larry retired from the Department of Music in the spring of 2105. He joined the Music faculty in 1982. Larry finished out the year with a performance of Max Bruch’s Kol Nidrei with the UNH Symphony Orchestra, followed by a reception with colleagues, students, and friends.

Alamire Cathedral

Throwback Photo: Hampshire Consort 1998
1 to r: Nic Orovich, Larry Veal, Bob Stibler, Paul Merrill, Chris Kane, and John Rogers
Tom Palance ‘81
Tom continues to enjoy life as a musician and teacher in New England after retiring from the US Navy Band out of Washington, D.C. ten years ago. Tom teaches at Salem State University, directing the jazz band, teaching trumpet and various classes. At SSU he has founded the summer camp known as “New England Jazz/Recording Camp” which provides a unique opportunity for students to write, play and record their own compositions. Tom also hosts an annual Jazz Invitational and Brass Day held at the university. Since the music department has recently merged with the dance department, he is collaborating with the dancers to teach the students about creative thinking through dance and jazz improvisation. He is also in his eighth year at The Boston Conservatory where he teaches conducting for the music education department graduate studies.

Andy Forster ‘89
Andy just completed his 25th year of teaching at Messalonskee High School in Oakland, Me., his 10th year as Director of the Mid Maine Youth Orchestra, and his fifth as Co-Founder and Director of the Acadia Wind Ensemble. He has guest conducted festivals all over Maine, and in 2012 received the Maine Music Educator of the Year award. Andy remains active as a trumpet player, performing with the Downeast Brass Quintet and the Al Corey Big Band.

Jim Bean ‘90
Jim retired from the U.S. Naval Academy Band, received his M.M. from Towson State University and was appointed to the full-time music faculty at Virginia Tech University.

Tom Bourgault ‘04/G’07
Tom received his DMA from Rutgers University in the spring of 2015.

Kevin Knapp ‘05/G’07
Kevin has moved to Australia, and is the President of the Australian Capital Territories Music Education Network.

Vanessa Davis ‘07, G’09
Vanessa currently plays with the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes and teaches at the Ithaca Waldorf School. In September 2015, she began her DMA at the University of North Texas where she was awarded a highly competitive Teaching Fellowship. Vanessa recently shared this on the UNH Alum site:

“UNH gave me the necessary tools to continue my clarinet study through the performance courses while feeling comfortable with theory, aural skills, and music history as well. My study with Dave Seiler (BM) and Elizabeth Gunlogson (MA) laid the groundwork for my work with Richard MacDowell in Ithaca. I am eternally grateful for the education I received at UNH and for all who were patient with me.”

Chris Klaxton ‘07
After finishing a Masters at Miami and working a cruise ship, Chris has returned to the NH seacoast where he has started an 18 piece big band (OURBIGBAND), recorded two albums of original music, and was appointed to the Plymouth State University faculty as Director of Jazz Bands and to the USM/Gorham faculty as professor of jazz trumpet and jazz piano.

Chris Burbank ‘07
Chris was a semi-finalist in the Thelonius Monk Jazz Competition and won the jazz trumpet auditions for a position in the U.S. Naval Academy Band.

Brian Starck BM ‘09/G’11
Brian received the Young Outstanding Band Director Award from the N.H. Band Directors Association.
Hannah Liuzzo ‘12

Hannah continues her work as a sales associate for Powell Flutes in Maynard, MA. On a business trip to Europe this winter, she breakfasted with Peggy Vagts in Regents Park in London.

Ryan O’Connell ‘13

Ryan is currently a Master’s candidate at Tufts University, and plays trumpet all around New England and beyond with the group Gretchen and the Pickpockets.

Susannah Thornton ‘13

Congratulations to vocalist Susannah Thornton, one of the winners of the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra (RICCO) Collegiate Vocal Solo Competition, held on October 24. In addition to a cash prize, Susannah will be a featured soloist during a concert on March 12 at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence, Rhode Island.

Susannah is currently Box Office Manager/Development Assistant at South Shore Conservatory of Music, Hingham MA, and the alto soloist at 2nd Parish UU, Hingham MA. She is in her second year as a master’s candidate for MM in Vocal Performance at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, MA and studies with Carol Mastrodomenico.

UNH Alumni at the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert

l to r: Mark Taddonio ’15, Katja Kleyensteuber ’16, Crystal Carr, Adam Gallant ’08, Matt Mitchell ’07, Greg Bechtold ’10, Karen Smith ’10, Katrina Veno (née Michaud) ’12

All the best in 2016!