

UPSCALE UW WEEKLY

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
MOORES SCHOOL OF MUSIC



August 22, 2011

News & Notes

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year! Whether you're new to the Moores School of Music, or are returning to begin a new year, I'm glad you're here. We all have a busy and exciting year ahead of us.

Two important faculty changes occurred during early summer. **Jennifer Mishra** resigned in June to accept a position at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale; her husband Michael teaches nearby at another campus of the same university. A search committee has been formed to find her successor. **Richard Fiese**, whom some of you will remember from the years he taught at UH, and who is currently on the music education faculty at Houston Baptist University, will teach one music education doctoral course for us in the fall. **Kelly Turner** also resigned in June in order that he and his family could return to North Carolina to be closer to family. We are fortunate, however, that **Justin Smith**, who received his DMA in choral conducting from the Moores School a few years ago, will be a visiting faculty member for the coming year, during which time a search committee will find a replacement for Kelly.

We are also very fortunate to have two new faculty members joining us, **Kirsten Yon**, violin, and **Troy Bennefield**, band. Kirsten comes to us from Texas Tech, where she was on faculty since 2003. Her degrees in violin performance are from the University of Michigan, Cleveland Institute, and Rice, where she earned her DMA. I'm also happy to report that she's bringing an impressive number of students with her.

Troy has degrees from the University of Alabama (music education) and the University of Oklahoma (percussion performance), and he's currently completing his DMA in wind conducting at Oklahoma. Please introduce yourselves to both **Kirsten** and **Troy**, and I want again to thank the committees who worked very hard to make these searches so successful!

We're also pleased to announce that there are several new affiliate artists joining us this fall: **Elise Wagner**, bassoon, who succeeds **Cheryl Huddleston**, who moved to Philadelphia; **Danny Vinson**, euphonium; and **Suzanne LeFevre** and **Alicia Valoti**, viola.

You'll notice that our scholarship and admissions coordinator is new — **Stacia Morgan** follows **Erin Doty**, who has begun a graduate program in Virginia. Stacia, as many of you know, received her BM in voice in the Moores School before going to Rice to earn her MM. I'm happy to report the transition from Erin to Stacia has been very smooth.

Gus Paredes left our Music Library due to M.D. Anderson Library budget cuts — Gus was a truly valuable member of the library staff for many years, and we will miss him.

In my letter of welcome last year, I wrote about **Dan Gelok**, affiliate artist in saxophone, who became our sole saxophone instructor last fall. Dan quickly proved himself when the undergraduate quartet he coached, **Blue Static**, won the Silver Medal in the Senior Wind Division of the 2011 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition in May. Congratulations go to Dan, along with quartet members **Robert Eason**, **Lee Redfearn III**, **Justin Neumann**, and **Elizabeth Ambs**. The ensembles competing against Blue Static came from top music schools in the country, and our group's award speaks to the long tradition of MSM saxophone quartets that have received national recognition through their appearances at important competitions.

And speaking of recognition, our **Concert Chorale**, **Betsy Cook Weber**, conductor, was one of 13 choirs competing in late May in the **Florilège Vocal du Tours (France)**, one of the world's most prestigious choral competitions. Our choir won two prizes, including one in the mixed choir category, and the other, for the performance of a work that was named "Best New Creation" — a work premiered at the competition. It was my honor to have composed the work the choir sang, a setting of an Emily Dickinson poem, and to have also received a prize for the composition.

Please be sure to review our Fall Event Calendar — many recitals, concerts, opera performances, and other events are happening over the next few months. And again, we're so glad you're here!

With best wishes,

David Ashley White

Aaron Casey (studio of **Joseph Evans**) was selected for a master class with Grammy Award winner and vocalist Bobby McFerrin as part of the HBO documentary series "Masterclass" recorded in the Festspielhaus Baden-Baden opera house in Germany this past July.

Geraldine Ong (studio of **Nancy Weems**) was the fourth place winner in the 2011 Houston Symphony Ima Hogg National Young Artist Competition at Rice University this past June.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, August 30, 7:30 pm

Organ Music of the French Renaissance

Robert Bates, *organ*

Sacred and secular works from the Pierre Attaignant collection of 1531, including a performer's introduction to the music.

Organ Recital Hall

Thursday, September 8, 7:30 pm Free RS (ticket required)

COLLAGE 2011

Annual all-school season preview featuring over 350 faculty, students, and performing ensembles

What You Need To Know...

Graduate Advising

Graduate students may call Doug Goldberg at 713-743-3314 to schedule an advising appointment.

Undergraduate Advising

Carrie Young will see walk-in students with registration needs as available during first two weeks of classes. Please check in with the Front Desk and wait in the reception area. DO NOT miss a class while waiting to be seen. No appointments will be scheduled during the first two weeks of class.

Keys

Practice room keys are only available to Music Majors. Request a key at the Front Desk, MSM Room 120 by filling out a Practice Room Key Form. This year the school will place a charge on your student account for \$25. You may keep the key until you graduate when it is to be returned for a full refund. **Any faculty member or TA who needs room or studio keys should also speak to the Front Desk.**

Lockers are for Music Majors Only

Music majors will be assigned lockers appropriate for their primary instrument. Many students will need to share lockers with others. Students with multiple instruments need to make other arrangements. If you renewed your locker last year, please come to the Front Desk to get your new combination. If you did not renew your locker space you will need to fill out a Locker Checkout Form. It is on a first-come, first-served basis, so hurry!!!

Section Numbers for Applied Lessons

Section numbers for applied lessons are posted under Course Listings as MUSA Course IDs. If you have any questions, see your advisor for assistance. The best way to find the correct section number is to enter MUSA in the Course Subject box. Then, enter your instructor's last name under "Additional Search Criteria." Select the appropriate level (freshman – 13XX; sophomore, 23XX; junior, 34XX; seniors, 44XX; Master's, 64XX; Doctoral 8420).

Student Recitals

Students wishing to sign up for degree recitals for Fall 2010 will find the applications and instructions on the Moores School web site at <http://www.uh.edu/musicstudents/> with user name: musicstudents and password: cougar. Undergraduate students must be current on their recital attendance credits to sign-up for a recital. Please check your recital attendance record at the Front Desk. Please obtain three possible dates from your instructor before seeing Doug Goldberg in Room 120J to schedule your recital.

Instrument Files

For your convenience, the Front Desk will keep your instrument information on file in case your instrument is lost or stolen. Students wishing to set up an instrument information file will find applications and instructions at the Front Desk. Information should include instrument, brand name, model number, serial number, identifying marks or characters, a photo of the instrument and case, name of your insurance company and type of policy.

Undergraduate Recital Attendance

All undergraduate students should attend at least 12 MSM recitals/concerts (including at least 4 Tuesday recitals) each semester. Credit for Opera House/ Tuesday Recitals is recorded by swiping your COUGAR ONE CARD in and out at each event. Credit for approved student recitals is processed by turning in a copy of the program (with your name & student PeopleSoft ID) to the Front Desk WITHIN two weeks of the recital. Student recital programs will not be accepted for credit after the two-week time period.

Concert Passes

Music majors are entitled to only one free admission to most MSM events. In order to get your free ticket, present your COUGAR ONE CARD with a current validation sticker. To get a current validation sticker, see the Front Desk, MSM 120.

Directory

Faculty room numbers and phone numbers are posted on the bulletin board by the elevators.

Library

The library is located on the 2nd floor and is open
Monday – Thursday: 8am – 8pm, Friday: 8 am – 5 pm
Saturday: 10 am – 2 pm, and Sunday: 2 pm – 8 pm

Reserving Rooms

1. Obtain a Facility Application at the Front Desk.
2. Fill out form completely, including faculty signature.
3. Return form to Front Desk.
4. Once room is scheduled, office staff will list it on the computer and give you written confirmation.

ROOMS WILL NOT BE SCHEDULED WITHOUT A SIGNED FORM.

Important Information

MSM Administration office:	713-743-3009
MSM Concert Information:	713-743-3313
Undergraduate Advisor:	713-743-3172
Graduate Advisor:	713-743-3314
Scholarship Coordinator:	713-743-5934
UH Registration:	713-743-1010
UH-Financial Aid:	713-743-1096
Campus Police:	713-743-3333
MSM Web site:	www.music.uh.edu
MSM Current Student Web site:	www.uh.edu/musicstudents

Important Dates

Last day to add a class (with Carrie Young's assistance)	8/29/11
Last day to drop/withdraw without grade or to receive a refund	9/7/11
Last day to file application for graduation (\$25):	9/20/11
Late graduation application period (\$50):	10/1 - 10/26/11
Thanksgiving Holiday:	11/23-11/26/11
Last day of class:	12/3/11
Final Examination Period:	12/7-12/15/11
Commencement/Official Closing:	12/16/11

MOORES SCHOOL OF MUSIC BUILDING HOURS:

Monday – Friday:	7 am – 11 pm
Saturday:	8 am – 6 pm
Sunday:	12 noon – 8 pm

**Deadline For Upscale Weekly
Submissions
Wednesday at 5:00 pm**

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