

# notes

*A newsletter of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Department of Music*

No. 12 - Fall 2014

## Notes from the Chair



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 academic year! We are pleased to be able to share the news and recent accomplishments from our students, faculty, and alumni. I would also encourage you to keep up with all that is happening this year through our departmental website or on our social media pages.

I am very humbled and honored to write to you as the new chair of the Department of Music. I am surrounded by colleagues who are world-class musicians, teachers, and people. I am particularly grateful for our assistant chairs Kevin Eisensmith and Zach Collins, department secretaries Vickie Morganti and Meghan Moore,

and our Steinway technician, Dan Alberts. The department also owes an enormous debt of gratitude to our outgoing chairperson, Dr. Jack Stamp. As he begins his 25<sup>th</sup> and final year as Director of Band Studies, Dr. Stamp will leave IUP with a rich legacy of recordings, commissions, and a deeply engrained standard of excellence. He has touched the lives of thousands of music alumni and we hope you will be able to join us for some of his final concerts. And speaking of rich legacies, the Department of Music is very pleased to announce that IUP's Board of Trustees recently voted to officially name the large rehearsal hall after Dr. Daniel DiCicco. You can read more details about this inside the newsletter.

We are fortunate to welcome new faculty as well as bid a fond farewell to Dr. John Kuehn, Dr. Jack Scandrett, and Dr. Susan Wheatley who have recently retired with a combined total of nearly 100 years of service to IUP. Ms. Tania Coombs will continue in her position as applied voice instructor and director of opera/music theater for 2014-15 and also joining us this year are Dr. Daniel Abrahams (music education), Ms. Rosemary Brumelow (clarinet) and Dr. Heidi Lucas (horn).

Music is alive and well here at IUP and we have had the enduring support of our college and university administration, despite reduced or flat funding from the state government. Recent music graduates have

secured full-time teaching positions, are attending prestigious graduate schools, and are employed as professional performers. More importantly, we hope they join our ranks as people who will tirelessly advocate for music to have its rightful place in all curricula. It is also thanks to many of you who have given to the department, or may be considering a gift for the future, that we are able to continue to afford our students the high-quality instruction and mentorship that makes IUP such a special place. We are all grateful for your support and as our university president recently said to the freshmen class at the opening convocation, "mi casa es su casa." Hope to see you back home again in Indiana soon!

With all best wishes,

Stephanie Caulder, chairperson

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# Department Notes

## DiCicco Room Named

The Indiana University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees approved the naming of the large instrumental rehearsal room in Cogswell Hall as Daniel DiCicco Hall.

Dr. Daniel DiCicco earned his Bachelor of Science in Music Education from IUP. After earning his Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Michigan, DiCicco joined the IUP faculty in 1956 and served as director of the IUP Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Mellowmen, and Concert Band.



Since the renovation of Cogswell Hall, DiCicco Hall has been one of the most important rooms in the building. Large ensembles such as the IUP Symphony Orchestra and the bands rehearse in the space. Because of its resonant acoustics, DiCicco Hall has been used increasingly for concerts and recitals. The Department of Music will hold a room naming ceremony on Saturday, December 6. Visit [www.iup.edu/music](http://www.iup.edu/music) for more information about the naming and ceremony.

IUP Percussion Alumni attended receptions to honor the induction of Percussion Professor Emeritus, Dr. Gary Olmstead, into the Percussive Arts Society Hall of Fame in November 2013. About thirty attended a dinner reception in Indiana, PA. The photo was taken at the reception following the Awards Ceremony at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Indianapolis where over forty alumni and friends were in attendance. There have only been 111 inducted into the PAS Hall of Fame since its inception in 1972. PAS is an international organization of about 8,000 members and includes all aspects of percussion. Dr. Gary Olmstead also received the 2014 Medal of Merit Award from Ohio University. The Medal of Merit Award is awarded to alumni who have achieved distinction and outstanding professional accomplishments in their chosen fields. Olmstead served as the Graduate Assistant in Percussion while enrolled in the Master of Fine Arts degree program at Ohio University from 1964-66. Dr. Olmstead also holds the Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Michigan and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music. Olmstead developed the percussion program at IUP during his 37 year tenure. Other awards and honors include the Achievement in Music Award from Ohio University, the Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching from IUP, and the Lifetime Achievement in Education Award from the Percussive Arts Society (PAS).

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The IUP Department of Music is pleased to announce the installation of the Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Organ, leased to Indiana University of Pennsylvania by the American Guild of Organists. The installation of the organ at IUP took more than a month of work and was completed by the original organ builder, Raymond J. Brunner of Raymond J. Brunner and Co., Silver Spring, PA. Read more about the Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Organ by going to the Keyboard Area page at [www.iup.edu/music](http://www.iup.edu/music) or by using this QR code:



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The IUP Saxophone Studio welcomed back alumnus Justin Polyblank and the Barkada Saxophone Quartet, winners of the Gold Medal Prize at the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition. They presented a recital and masterclass on October 9th and performed a concerto with the Wind Ensemble at the 2014 Homecoming Concert.

\*\*\*

Dr. Christine Clewell, Dr. Mary Logan Hastings and Dr. Linda Jennings supported the IUP Music Department's international exchange program with the University of the Americas in Puebla, Mexico (UDLAP) through a visit to UDLAP in April 2014. During their visit they presented a chamber music program for voice, cello and piano including a new composition "Vocalise" for voice and piano by IUP

## Department Notes

music professor Dr. David Martynuik. In addition they collaborated with UDLAP faculty and students in chamber music performances on the 11<sup>th</sup> Chamber Music Festival Camerlia hosted by UDLAP. Drs. Clewell and Hastings also worked with UDLAP students in teaching master classes. In a reciprocal visit, UDLAP faculty members Juan Hermida, cellist, and Misa Ito, pianist, visited IUP to work with music students and present concerts featuring works by cello and piano as well as collaborative chamber works with IUP faculty members Dr. Stanley Chepaitis, Dr. Mary Logan Hastings, Dr. Linda Jennings and IUP cello students. Mr. Hermida and Ms. Ito also presented a collaborative chamber music program with Dr. Chepaitis for Indiana Area School District students. This is the second faculty exchange of this international program with UDLAP. The exchange was coordinated by Dr. Jennings who initiated the program in 2009.

\*\*\*

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the IUP String Project in continuing its mission of providing quality string education for students in the area and mentoring future string educators. Several special events are being planned throughout the year to highlight this important milestone. The 10th Anniversary Event will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015 in Cogswell Hall. All IUP Music Department alumni are invited to attend an day-long event featuring IUP alumnus Scott Laird and IUP professors Dr. Stanley Chepaitis, and Dr. Linda Jennings. The day will feature rehearsals and a performance by the IUP Alumni String Orchestra led by Stanley Chepaitis and Scott Laird. For more information on these events go to [www.iup.edu/stringproject](http://www.iup.edu/stringproject). Highlights from last year include sponsoring, along with the IUP Music Department and College of Fine Arts, the first IUP Cello/String Festival in October 2013. The Festival featured internationally acclaimed cellist Matt Turner who led sessions and performances on alternative styles throughout the day for grade school through college age cellists as well as string and cello teachers in the region.

## Faculty Notes

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Legendary trumpeter Doc Severinsen opened the 2014–15 Lively Arts Ovations season on Tuesday, September 16, with an incredible show that featured IUP faculty, alumni, and students including Alexander Price (guitar), Richard Firestone (saxophone), and Nick Adams (bass). In addition, 21 students from the IUP Choral were selected to sing “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child” with Kansas-City based singer Vanessa Thomas.

## Faculty Notes

**Dr. Ryan Beeken**, director of Choral Studies, gave several presentations and served as guest conductor for numerous festivals during the 2013-2014 academic year. In August he presented an invited clinic at the Pennsylvania American Choral Directors Association annual conference, held in Elizabethtown, PA.

\*\*\*

Dr. Beeken conducted the Southern Invitational Choral Conference hosted by the University of Southern Mississippi in September 2013, and in November he led the Mucho Macho Men’s Festival, a choral festival for young men in Western Pennsylvania. In addition, Beeken conducted the Armstrong and Indiana County High School Honor Choirs, the Blair County Junior High Honor Choir, the PMEA District 3 Honor Choir, and the PMEA Region 3 Honor Choir.

\*\*\*

Dr. Beeken was invited to spend a three-day residency, from January 14-16, 2014, at Ohio State University. During the residency, Beeken conducted the Symphonic Choir, University Singers, and Women’s Glee Club in rehearsals and taught undergraduate choral conducting and secondary choral methods.

\*\*\*

In March, Dr. Beeken was invited to serve as one of 12 presenters at the Southwest American Choral Directors Association Division Convention. Beeken’s session,

entitled “Conductor ‘Creature’ Vs. Conductor-Teacher: Empowering Singers Through Authenticity in the Choral Rehearsal,” was designed to illuminate the dynamic relationship between the chorus and the conductor-teacher.

\*\*\*

**Dr. Zach Collins** traveled to Moscow, Russia, in January 2014 to perform at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory. Dr. Collins performed in a concert given in memory of Alexey Lebedev, the first professor of tuba at the Moscow Conservatory. He was invited by Professor Yuri Larin, the current professor of tuba and former student of Lebedev.

\*\*\*

**Dr. Kevin Eisensmith** was honored at the 2014 International Trumpet Guild Conference, held in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, as one of three recipients of the ITG Award of Merit. The Award of Merit is one of two lifetime achievement awards created by the International Trumpet Guild and is given “to those individuals who have made substantial contributions to the art of trumpet playing through performance, teaching, publishing, research, composition, and/or support of the goals of the International Trumpet Guild.” To date, only 35 individuals have been selected for this recognition.

\*\*\*

**Dr. Jacob Ertl**, assistant professor of piano, performed a recital featuring Beethoven’s *Sonata Op. 90*, Rzewski’s *Winnsboro Cotton Mill Blues*, two pieces from Liszt’s *Years of Pilgrimage*, and a transcription of Stravinsky’s *Firebird* on the Johnstown Concert Series at the First Presbyterian Church on October 12, 2013. Ertl’s participation also included a master class for local piano students.

\*\*\*

Dr. Ertl was a featured artist at the Dakota Sky International Piano Festival, held June 13–24, 2014, in Sioux Falls, S.D. While in residence, Ertl performed a solo piano recital in the Recital Series.

## Accent

This fall we debuted a new e-newsletter, *Accent*. *Accent* is a way for us to share department news and events in a timely manner. Use the QR code or visit [www.iup.edu/music/alumni](http://www.iup.edu/music/alumni) to view past or receive future issues of *Accent*.



## Jack Stamp Retirement

Dr. Jack Stamp will be retiring at the end of the Spring 2015 semester. A final gala concert weekend has been planned beginning with performances by the IUP Symphony Band and Concert Band on Friday, April 24th. Dr. Stamp, known for his involvement in the commissioning of new works, will present his final concert with the IUP Wind Ensemble featuring world premiere performances of works by Anthony O'Toole, Molly Joyce, Carl Holmquist, and Daniel French. A highlight of the concert will be the world premiere of "A Jack Stamp Suite", with movements by contributing composers Bruce Yurko, Andrew Boysen, Timothy Broege, Timothy Mahr, Mark Camphouse, and Dwayne Milburn. That concert is Saturday, April 25th. The weekend will conclude with a performance by the Keystone Wind Ensemble on Sunday, April 26th at 2 p.m.

\*\*\*

In September 2013 IUP cello professor **Dr. Linda Jennings** collaborated with pianist Dr. Chindarat Charoewongse, Professor at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO), to present a program of American music including new works by composers Daniel Perlono, Samuel Magrill, and Keith White at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. In November 2013 she performed on a faculty chamber music concert and presented master classes at the UCO. In June 2014 she performed with the Arcadia Trio in concerts featuring Olivier Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* in Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada and at the State University of New York in Fredonia. She also participated as co-organizer and co-presenter at a session in the ASTA national conference March 5, 2014 in Louisville, KY, entitled "Implementing ASTACAP."

\*\*\*

In July and August of 2014, Dr. Jennings worked with the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra Foundation as Artistic Director in developing and leading an intensive three-week workshop for young high school and college cellists as well leading cello teachers, and professional cellists. This was the first program of this kind in Thailand. The final concert featured two world premieres of works for solo cello and cello ensemble commissioned specifically for this project with Dr. Jennings as soloist – *Chiaroscuro* by IUP's Stanley Chepaitis and *Song without Words* by leading Thai cellist Kittikuhn Sodprasert. The program also highlighted IUP faculty member Mary Logan Hastings in a performance of Hector Villa Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras #5* for solo soprano and cello ensemble. Dr. Jennings also performed as a member of the Bangkok

Symphony Orchestra for an all-Mozart concert featuring internationally renowned guest conductor/violinist Dmitry Sitkovetsky. Dr. Jennings presented a final weeklong workshop and concert for the Chiang Rai Youth Orchestra program in northern Thailand. This project was supported by a \$10,000 award from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council as well as the IUP Music Department and College of Fine Arts.

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This past April, **Dr. Jacob Ertl** premiered a new composition for solo piano by **Dr. John Levey** at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. The composition, entitled *Cycles*, was commissioned by UPB in celebration of their fiftieth anniversary.

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**Dr. Carl Rahkonen**, Music Librarian, was hired by Michigan State University to conduct fieldwork among Finnish American musicians and instrument builders in the state of Michigan. In July he interviewed, photographed, and recorded musicians in Oakland, near Detroit, and in the Upper Peninsula villages of Toivola, Covington, and Aura. His fieldwork will be archived at the Michigan State Museum in East Lansing.

\*\*\*

**Dr. Henry Wong Doe** gave a masterclass, private lessons, and a recital in Singapore and Malaysia during Thanksgiving break, 2013. As a newly appointed examiner for the Ars Nova Conservatory Singapore, Wong Doe's visit aimed to strengthen the new partnership between IUP and the Ars Nova Conservatory.

\*\*\*

In April 2014 Dr. Wong Doe premiered a chamber work by composer and Penn State Altoona faculty member Timothy

Melbinger at the Misciagna Center for Performing Arts at Penn State Altoona.

\*\*\*

Dr. Wong Doe performed Beethoven's Emperor Concerto with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra in Christchurch, New Zealand, on May 24 and 25, 2014. This concert was held in the Charles Luney Auditorium, St. Margaret College, Christchurch. In the summer of 2014 he released his second solo album, *Landscape Preludes*, on Rattle Records. The disc is a set of 12 solo piano works by contemporary New Zealand composers, all reflective of the New Zealand landscape. During its first week of release, the New Zealand Herald critic William Dart gave the disc a five-star rating.

\*\*\*

**Dr. Keith Young** was the guest conductor/clinician at the TMEA Region 5 Jazz Ensemble Festival in Dallas, Texas this past year. He also performed on a program at IUP and West Liberty College with a saxophone quartet he formed including three IUP alumni: Christopher Barrick ('01); Benjamin Saylor ('10); and Michael Menzietti ('05). This quartet presented all jazz saxophone quartet literature, including two arrangements written by Dr. Young during his sabbatical.

## Ensemble Notes

On Saturday, October 26, 2013, the **University Chorale** performed for the American Choral Directors Association State Fall Conference. The University Chorale was one of two university ensembles selected through a blind, peer-reviewed process to perform for Pennsylvania choral professionals. The Chorale was joined by Music Department faculty members Jacob Ertl, Stanley Chepaitis, and Jack Scandrett. The department and ensemble were very well received. In fact, one choral educator remarked "the sleeping giant has awoken!"

\*\*\*

Zach Collins and students of the **IUP Tuba and Euphonium Studio** traveled to Bloomington, IN, to present invited performances at the 2014 International Tuba Euphonium Conference (ITEC). The IUP Tubaphonium Ensemble performed a concert alongside the studios from

## Ensemble Notes

Marshall University, and the Eastman and Hartt Schools of Music. The students from these schools also combined to perform the premiere of Barbara York's *Dark Chocolate Suite*, a piece that IUP co-commissioned along with the other institutions involved in the concert.

\*\*\*

The **IUP Wind Ensemble** has been invited to be the "featured ensemble" at the 2015 USBands Festival being held at Heinz Hall on May 18th. The concert will be open to the public. More specific information will be on the website once it becomes available.

## Student Notes



*From left to right: William Pendziwiatr, Nicole Bradley, Dennis Emert, Richard Victor, Jeremy Baker, Scott Sheehan, Abigail Young, Margaret Bauer*

**Nicole Bradley**, a junior BS Music Education student, participated in the National Association for Music Education's Collegiate Advocacy Summit on June 26–28, 2014, in Washington, D.C. Nicole joined approximately 150 music education leaders, students, and supporters from every state in the U.S. as well as Europe to speak to members of Congress and their staff about the role of the arts in education.

\*\*\*

Music Education student **Tate Dewalt** was one of five undergraduate conductors from Pennsylvania selected to compete in the American Choral Directors Association – Pennsylvania annual conducting competition. Dewalt represented IUP during the competition hosted as part of ACDA-PA's annual Fall Conference. Student conductors rehearsed a choir while being adjudicated by an expert panel of university conductors.

## Student Notes

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This past March, senior saxophonist **Josh Wertz** won the annual IUP Delta Omicron Solo Competition.

## Library Notes



*Edward Sims*

Edward Sims, a Distinguished Alumnus of IUP, visited the Orendorff Music Library and the Music Department on August 18th. Dr. Sims, a 1953 graduate in music from IUP, went on to earn his Doctorate in Music Education from the University of Michigan. Sims's doctoral dissertation was on "The History of the

## Library Notes

Music Department at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania and its Contributions to Music Education." This work has been vital in documenting the history of the IUP Music Department from its beginnings until around 1965. Dr. Sims, an outstanding pianist, spent the largest portion of his teaching career as a music professor at Slippery Rock University.

Twenty years ago Dr. Sims donated a set of ethnic musical instruments to the Music Library which he collected from around the world. The collection has instruments representing every continent, including Africa, Asia and South America. Some of the more important instruments include a Philippine *kawayan* (a type of large bamboo tuba), and a nine-foot Swiss Alpenhorn. Since the time of Sims's donation, others have donated instruments to the collection, making it truly substantial. Five years ago, Sims donated a 100 year-old Edison disk player to the Music Library. It is a Model H-19 "Hepplewhite" with a fleur-de-lis grille. He included a second portable Edison player and eighty-seven disks. The Music Library is currently featuring a display of selected instruments from the Edward R. Sims Collection.

## Festivals

*For full information visit [www.iup.edu/music](http://www.iup.edu/music)*

### Junior High Band Festival

November 8, 2014

Guest Conductor:  
Dr. Susan Creasap

### Senior High Band Festival

December 5-7, 2014

Guest Conductor:  
Dr. James Colonna

### Crimson Hawks Cavalcade of Choirs

May 1, 2014

Clinicians:  
Dr. Ryan Beeken  
Dr. Derrick Fox  
Mr. Marko Vatovec

# Alumni Notes

**John F Hastings (BSEd 1971)** continues to sing with the Pittsburgh Opera as a professional chorister, American Guild of Musical Artists. John is singing in his 27<sup>th</sup> consecutive season as a baritone in the opera. He resides near Marion Center, PA.

\*\*\*

**Michael E. Martin (BSEd 1973)** retired after 40 years of teaching instrumental music (strings, winds, and percussion) in the School District of Haverford Township. He remains active on

the faculty and board of directors of the Gordon Institute for Music Learning, maintains a private studio, and performs as a freelance tenor. His wife, **Sandy (Vetter) Martin (BSEd 1974)** is retired from the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, where she conducted children's choirs, founded a handbell program that grew to 8 choirs, and established a school for music and art for preschool children. They have one son, SSG Robert E. Martin, a member of *Pershing's Own U.S. Army Band*, and a daughter-in-law, Mu Na, who substitutes regularly with the Baltimore Symphony.

\*\*\*

**Jim "Cat" Catalano (BSEd 1975)** was the Graduate Assistant Band Director at The University of Notre Dame in South Bend, IN, earning a Master's of Music in 1977. He has been working in the music industry since 1978. For the past 31 years he was the Marketing Manager for Ludwig Musser Percussion. Catalano is still playing percussion professionally with symphonic bands and orchestras in Indiana and playing drums in Truth in Jazz Big Band and jazz vibes with

VibeNation. For 26 years Catalano worked on the organizing committee for The Elkhart Jazz Festival. He conducted Percussion Clinics at Midwest Clinic in Chicago (2001, 2006, 2012), American Band College in Oregon (2003, 2006, 2013), Texas Music Educators Association (2009, 2014), and PMEA (1998). He was the recipient of the Percussive Arts

Society President's Industry Award (1998), Midwest Clinic Music Industry Award (2010), and served on the Board of Directors for The Percussive Arts Society from 1998-2002. Jim lives in Goshen, IN. He has been married to Pam for 20 years and has two adult children and three grandchildren.

\*\*\*

**Dr. Courtney Snyder (BSEd 1997)** was recently appointed as Associate Director of bands at The University of Michigan. She will begin her appointment in the fall of 2014.

\*\*\*

**Patrick Rettger (BSEd 2000)** was hired as Instructor of Tuba and Euphonium at Jackson State University in 2010. Rettger completed his DMA in Tuba Performance from the University of Southern Mississippi in December 2013.

\*\*\*

**Chris Roode (BSEd, BFA 2004)** received a grant for a Will Schmid World Percussion Package for his youth program.

\*\*\*

**Janine Herd (BSEd 2005)** married Brian Weiss (BS Business Management 2006) and honeymooned in Hawaii. Janine teaches music in Downingtown Area School District and Brian is a Senior Marketing Analyst for Trans-

America. The couple resides in Phoenixville.

\*\*\*

**David Bridgewater (BSEd 2006)** graduated with his master's degree in Music Education from Penn State in May 2009. He is currently teaching middle school band with the Central Consolidated School District in Shiprock, New Mexico.

\*\*\*

**Owen "Fiidla" Brown (MA 1996)** performed at Lincoln Center in New York City on February 14, 2014. This was a collaboration between Emmy award-winning tap dancer Jason Samuels Smith and the noted musicians of the Fiidla Brown Quartet. The work is based on the rhythmical and creative elements rooted in the African American experience, and is a musical response to the acclaimed film *12 Years a Slave*.

\*\*\*

**Dr. Christopher Davis (MA 2004)** will perform the first movement of Michael Torke's percussion concerto, *Rapture*, with North Greenville University's concert band in November.

\*\*\*



**Jennifer Barton,**  
Individual Giving  
Manager,  
Jacksonville  
Symphony Orchestra



**Rebecca Zabinski,**  
Artistic Associate,  
Houston Symphony

**Rebecca Zabinski (BFA 2006) and Jennifer Barton (BA 2010)** were recently chosen as two of seven participants in the League of American Orchestra's "Emerging Leaders Program." Participants were selected based on their overall leadership potential and for their perceived capacity to make an even greater contribution to the organizations they currently serve and those they will serve in the future. They work in all areas of orchestra administration, including artistic, development, education and community engagement, and operations.

Stay up-to-date and in touch!

<http://www.iup.edu/music/alumni>

Alumni information and back issues of *Notes and Accent*.

**Wind Ensemble at PMEA**

The IUP Wind Ensemble has been invited to play at the 2015 PMEA Conference on March 26th in Hershey, PA. The proposed concert "East Meets West" will feature our Wind Ensemble combining forces with the West Chester Wind Ensemble. They will perform a variety of works, featuring faculty soloists from both schools and a mixture of conductors. The performance is set for 10:45 a.m.

# Alumni Notes

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**Brian Hopkins (BSEd 2007)** received his Master's in Education Administration from California University of Pennsylvania in August 2012. He married Michelle Killinger (class of 2007 and IUP Majorette) on November 3, 2012 in Pittsburgh. They currently reside in Whitehall, PA where Brian is a middle school music teacher in the Woodland Hills School District and Assistant Director of the marching band. Michelle is in Human Resources at Heinz.

\*\*\*

**Andrew Wright (BSEd 2007)** and **Alyssa (Baughman) Wright (BSEd 2005)** welcomed daughter Addison Cassidy on December 18, 2013.

\*\*\*

**Justina Crawford-Williams (BSEd 2010)** has been selected by National Arts Strategies to participate in the first cohort of the Creative Community Fellows. Built by National Arts Strategies, the Creative Community Fellows program brings together a unique community of innovators committed to using arts and culture to design solutions for community problems. Led by experts and world-renowned thought leaders in social innovation, design thinking and creative placemaking fellows gain the tools, skills, and networks to activate the ideas that will transform their communities. During her fellowship, Justina plans to develop a mentorship program that focuses on holistic health through

the arts to help local military families transition while airmen are deployed.

\*\*\*

**Kevin Huhn (BSEd 2010)** will be starting his DMA studies at The Hartt School this Fall. He will study on a full scholarship in their intensive chamber music program called Performance 20/20. It's a unique program made up of about 20 players, the students get to choose the repertoire with many different instrumentation choices encouraged, and are coached by the faculty three times a week. The composition students also write pieces for the group which are premiered at a special concert.

\*\*\*

**Michael Gaydeski's (BA 2011)** composition *Supernova* was premiered by the Oklahoma City University Wind Philharmonic. He has begun a Master's degree in performance at OCU.

\*\*\*

**Jessica Hann (BSEd, BFA 2011)** graduated from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, NJ in May 2013 with a Master of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy with distinction. This summer she studied as a young artist at the Le Chiavi di Bel Canto program in Houston, TX and as a member of the choral ensemble-in-residence for the inaugural Westminster Choral Institute at Oxford University, under the direction of James Jordan and James Whitbourn. She then

traveled to Sárospatak, Hungary, where she sang the role of Donna Anna in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at the Crescendo Summer Institute.

\*\*\*

**Willis Spencer (BSEd 2011)** is currently in his second year of teaching Instrumental Music in Baltimore County Public Schools at Windsor Mill Middle School. This summer he started his Masters in Educational Leadership. When not in the classroom he serves his community as a Baltimore County Volunteer Firefighter.

\*\*\*

**Hannah Senft (BFA, BSEd 2012)** was accepted into the Master of Music program at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. She was awarded an Assistantship and will be studying oboe with Dr. Ashley Barret.

\*\*\*

**Rebecca (Wojtaszek) Showalter (BSEd 2012)** spent a FANTASTIC year as Elementary Music Teacher at Conemaugh Township Areas School District during the 2012-2013 school year and has since married and relocated to Pittsburgh. She has just completed her first year as Elementary Music and Choral Director in the Canon-McMillan School District.

\*\*\*

**Brandy Spiering (BSEd 2013)** was hired at Ligonier Valley High School to teach band, chorus, and music appreciation.

\*\*\*

The Ivy Leaf Orchestra of Kittanning accompanied the showing of "The Johnstown Flood", a 1926 silent film. The movie, shown for the first time in 25 years, was presented at the Grand Halle in Johnstown to an audience of more than 400 to commemorate the 1889 flood. The orchestra was conducted by **Dennis F. Cramer (BSED 1975, MA 1982)** and the music was scored by **Eric Cook (BA HIST 1998)**, based upon the original cue sheets. The orchestra members included: **Martha (Peck) Capone (BSED 1982)**-flute, **Marykate Kuhne (current IUP student)**-clarinet, **Larry Conway (BSED 1977)**-cornet, **Christian Dickinson (IUP music faculty)**-trombone, **Christie Kecskemethy**-violin, **Elizabeth Cramer (BSED 1976)**-cello, **Roger Whisler**-bass, **Eric Cook**-piano and **Rob Reams (BSED 2002)**-percussion.



*Ivy Leaf Orchestra of Kittanning under the direction of Dennis F. Cramer*

## Spring 2015 Highlights

February 7, 7 PM	"Leaves of Grass"
February 19-22	TrumpetFest
February 21, 8 PM	Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
February 24, 8 PM	Litton String Quartet
February 27, 8 PM	IUP Symphony Orchestra
February 28, 7:30 PM	Wind Ensemble/Symphony Band
March 1, 3 PM	IUP Choirs
March 18, 8 PM	Vienna Boys Choir
March 21, 8 PM	Bach & Beyond
March 28, 7 PM	Dance and Percussion
March 31, 8 PM	IUP String Ensemble
April 9, 6 PM	IUP Brass Ensemble
April 21, 8 PM	IUP Percussion Ensemble
April 24, 7:30 PM	IUP Concert Band/Symphony Band
April 25, 7:30 PM	IUP Wind Ensemble
April 25	IUP String Alumni Event
April 30, 8 PM	IUP Symphony Orchestra
May 2, 3 PM	IUP Jazz Band/Jazz Ensemble
May 3, 3 PM	IUP Choral and Brass Ensembles

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The coordinator for *Notes* is Dr. Zach Collins

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## *Alumni Information:*

We would like to know about the special *Notes* in your life! Please let us know what you are doing (current employment, marriage, children, special awards, etc.), so that we can include you in our next issue of *Notes*.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
IUP Degree(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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***Please return this form to:***

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Indiana, PA 15705-1049