Dear Descant readers:

Greetings from Fitz Hall and the Department of Music! It has been a full and productive time since last spring’s issue of the Descant. We have been pleased to welcome many alumni visitors to our facilities and performances, especially during the first collaborative production with the Theatre Program in November of the musical Once Upon A Mattress. We have also enjoyed connecting with alumni at national recruitment fairs and professional conferences, as well as during the orchestra’s fall break tour to Philadelphia and New York City. We appreciate seeing and sharing news with our alumni and hope you will keep us updated on what is happening in your personal and professional lives.

One faculty search was completed this fall with the hiring of Noah Potvin as the new lecturer in music therapy. Potvin is a board-certified music therapist and is completing his doctorate in creative arts therapies at Drexel University in Philadelphia. Two other searches are well underway: a position for a tenure-track assistant professor in brass to follow (although I am not certain how anyone can actually do that!) Dr. Richard Chenoweth after his retirement in May, and a visiting lecturer and music education coordinator to assume Dr. Linda Hartley’s duties now that she has moved to the School of Education and Health Sciences as associate dean. Finally, an office administrator position is open as a result of Jeanie Smith’s decision to retire. Smith brought many skills and much dedication to her position, and she will be greatly missed.

This academic year has been and will continue to be filled with exciting and varied guest artists and visiting clinicians. In September, Dr. David Frego from the University of Texas at San Antonio invited faculty and students to get on their feet and experience Dalcroze Eurhythmics pedagogy during his three-day residency. Frego worked with many different classes and groups and modeled excellent teaching and incredible energy as he challenged everyone’s kinesthetic sense and listening skills. Dr. Robert Jones hosted the popular young composer Jake Runestad on campus to work with University Chorale on some of his music and improvisation. Composer Stella Sung also visited campus and shared the process she uses in her work. Both Runestad and Sung were in Dayton for performances of their compositions by the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra. Sung will return in May for the Dayton Opera premiere of her new opera The Book Collector. Jazz pianist Aaron Diehl was on campus as part of the ArtsLive series and spent a Common Hour with music majors. Audiologist Dr. Felicia Boubin made a presentation to music majors about hearing loss in the profession. Finally, alumni artists Sarah Schouten, MUS ’06, (horn) and Rose Drance, MUE ’92, (soprano) performed as part of the Alumni Artist Series Donna Cox established. They spoke articulately about their personal and career journeys after their graduation from UD.

Emily and Tom Borling, from Houston, Texas, have joined other generous donors to the Department of Music this past year to provide for the purchase of a new harpsichord. Tom Borling graduated from UD in 1964 and is a retired music faculty member and jazz pianist from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas. Emily Borling studied organ and sacred music in the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. Eric Street and I traveled to the Harpsichord Clearing House in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, in September to purchase a rebuilt 1974 Herz double manual transposing instrument. The harpsichordist will be Mylène Bélanger, a wonderful young talent from Quebec, Canada.

This fall, businessman, artist and philanthropist James Dicke funded the purchase of a fourth Steinway studio upright piano for one of our practice modules in memory of his late aunt, Dorothy Gilvary. This instrument makes a total of five Steinways that Dicke has provided for the Department of Music in the last two years, including a grand piano for a teaching studio. Dicke visited campus in October to see the pianos and to hear demonstrations of two of the instruments by Tori Obermeier, MUT ’18, and Artist-in-Residence John Benjamin, whose studio houses the Steinway grand.

Before closing this edition of the chair’s letter, I want to offer special thanks to Alice Hotopp, former longtime UD voice faculty member, who substituted beautifully in the fall semester for Dr. Minnita Daniel-Cox while she was on maternity leave for the birth of her second child and first son, Aaron Sutton III, born September 29, 2015. Hotopp was a joy to have back in the department, and Dr. D-C and the baby are doing well. Thank you, Alice!

Best wishes of this new year to all our Descant readers. Please keep in touch!

Sharon Gratto
DEGREE AND CURRICULAR AREA UPDATES

MUSIC THERAPY

Music Therapy Student Collaborative

On Oct. 23 and 24, 2015, the University of Dayton music therapy program played host to more than 100 students, faculty, volunteers and certified music therapists for the third biannual Music Therapy Student Collaborative. Students and faculty from UD, the University of Evansville, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne engaged in singing, drumming and presentations from local volunteers and professionals about end-of-life care. On Friday evening, Sharon Gratto, along with two other members of the Miami Valley Pet Therapy Association (with their dogs) talked about pet therapy with hospice patients. Saturday’s presentations included talks about the typical day in the life of a hospice music therapist (Amy Meinerding Pearson), preparing for hospice internships (Allyson Sosa and Rebecca Welch), family-based care (Mike Witter), dementia and hospice care (Shonda Malik) and the values that guide end-of-life music therapy practice (Jessica Josefczyk). Thanks to the Music Therapy Club and the Department of Music for co-sponsoring this event!


ORCHESTRA

On Tour

From Wednesday, Oct. 7, through Sunday, Oct. 11, 32 members of the University of Dayton Orchestra traveled on tour, performing concerts in Philadelphia and New York. The orchestra performed at four outstanding high schools:

St. Hubert Catholic High School for Girls has one of the only full symphony orchestras in a Philadelphia-area Catholic high school, a fact of which they are very proud.

The Philadelphia Performing Arts Charter School, one of four innovative arts and sciences “String Theory” schools in Philadelphia, is an urban campus with a diverse and gifted student population.

Kellenberg Memorial High School (Uniondale, New York) and Chaminade High School (Mineola, New York) are distinguished Marianist institutions with long-standing, close relationships to UD. Both high schools support rich arts offerings and have thriving music programs.

In addition, the orchestra spent two nights in residence at the Emmanuel Retreat House on the campus of Kellenberg Memorial High School.

Each school visit and performance was structured to provide a unique opportunity for interaction with students at the host schools. The concerts included not only our repertoire, but at each school the UD Orchestra also teamed up with the host school orchestra to rehearse and perform side by side in music they selected from their own repertoire.

Our own orchestra’s repertoire ranged from a Mozart Diver timento to Panamanian dances by William Grant Still, and from British settings of Renaissance dances to music from the movie Pirates of the Caribbean — and several other exciting works for string orchestra.

The tour was not all work — the orchestra had one free day in New York City and attended a production of the new, award-winning musical An American in Paris at the Palace Theatre on Broadway.

In a personal comment, Patrick Reynolds writes: I want you to know how proud I am of our University Orchestra members as they’ve prepared for this tour so early in the academic year. Our orchestra, which has grown to more than 40 string players, is truly the “UD Orchestra,” comprising students from an impressive variety of academic majors: chemical, mechani-
cal, civil, electrical and computer engineering, biology, mental health counseling, middle childhood education, business, entrepreneurship, accounting, music education, music performance, music composition, music therapy, English, applied mathematical economics, pre-physical therapy, discover sciences, adolescence to young adult education, exercise physiology, psychology, marketing, communication and chemistry. Their love for music and their commitment to making artistic expression part of their academic lives is an inspiration for all.

Performance – Under the direction of Patrick Reynolds, conductor, the orchestra performed at the Dayton Art Institute in the Renaissance Auditorium on November 1, 2015. The performance included *The Curfew* by Peter Warlick on poems by W.B. Yeats, with tenor soloist Alec Brown, MUP ’16, winner of the UD Concerto Aria Competition.

BRASS AREA UPDATE

Chad Arnow, artist-in-residence in trombone and brass area coordinator, completed a busy summer. In addition to performances with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops Orchestra and Columbus Symphony Orchestra, he recorded a CD of new trombone quartet works with the Elysian Trombone Consort.

In addition to completing his doctorate degree at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music in April, trumpet instructor Daniel Grantham released a CD titled *Eighteen Contest Solos for Advancing Trumpeters*.

Yukitada Onitsuka, tuba and euphonium instructor, performed a recital in May at the 2015 International Tuba Euphonium Association Midwest Regional Conference at Bowling Green State University.

VOICE AREA UPDATE

Upcoming Events:

UD voice faculty will present a recital of works by noted Boston-area composer and artistic director of The Shakespeare Concerts Joseph Summer, during his residency on campus in March 2016. The performance is March 10 at 8 p.m. in Sears Recital Hall and is free and open to the public. The program will feature Summer’s musical treatments of texts by William Shakespeare, with commentary by the composer.

Andrea Chenoweth Wells, soprano artist-in-residence, will perform the Fauré Requiem and Dr. Ryu-Kyung Kim, lecturer in voice, will perform Bach's *Magnificat* with the Bach Society of Dayton at 7:30 p.m. March 13 at Kettering Adventist Church. Visit [bachsocietyofdayton.org](http://bachsocietyofdayton.org) for ticket information.

FACULTY NEWS

**Eric Knorr** — A new addition to the University of Dayton adjunct faculty, Professor Knorr performed with the Cincinnati Symphony during the annual May Festival and performed multiple concerts with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, including lead trumpet for Sheena Easton and Sam Harris under the direction of UD’s Dr. Patrick Reynolds. Knorr performed with the Lexington (Kentucky) Philharmonic and played principal trumpet on two summer concerts with the Hamilton Fairfield Symphony Orchestra. In a chamber music capacity, he performed a recital at St. John’s United Church of Christ in Dayton with organist Kathryn Maresca, while also performing, editing and mastering a recording session with Maresca that was recorded at St. Mary’s Church in Dayton. A digital release of that recording is forthcoming and contains works by Bach, Copland, Hovhaness, Fauré, Mabboux, Stamm and more. Additionally, Knorr was selected to be the lead trumpet for Broadway artist Kristin Chenoweth’s concert appearance at the Fraze Pavilion in Kettering, performed with the Jazz Central Big Band and performed in the orchestra for *Fiddler on the Roof* with the Springfield Arts Council.

**Dr. Ryu-Kyung Kim** — In addition to her duties as a voice faculty member, Kim had a busy performance schedule over the last several months, including:

- Dayton Opera, *Madama Butterfly* (Suzuki) — Dayton, Ohio
  November 20 & 22, 2015
- Peniel Choir & Orchestra, Handel’s *Messiah* (alto solo) — Englewood, New Jersey
Eileen Whalen — UD faculty oboist Eileen Whalen has once again been praised in *The New York Times* for her performance in Vivaldi’s *Cato in Utica*:

“Cato kills himself, expiring wordlessly to the strains of a displaced Ciccolini-assembled aria, with voice replaced by oboe (beautifully played on Saturday evening by Eileen Whalen.)”

Read the article at: [nytimes.com/2015/08/06/arts/music/at-glimmerglass-festival-the-magic-flute-is-among-the-reimagined.html?_r=0](http://nytimes.com/2015/08/06/arts/music/at-glimmerglass-festival-the-magic-flute-is-among-the-reimagined.html?_r=0)


### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

*Francis (Alec) Brown, MUP ’16,* was a 2015-16 Culture Works Leonard P. Roberts Scholarship recipient. This memorial scholarship is awarded to junior or senior college students who demonstrate participation in and patronage of the arts.

*Gillian Taylor, MUE ’16,* was awarded the 2015 Presser Foundation Scholarship Award. This prestigious award is given to an outstanding music major at the end of the year in recognition of excellence and merit. Honorable mention for this award went to *Mary Makulinski, MUT ’16.*

*Katherine Van Keuren, MUE ’16,* was one of five recipients of an Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) Memorial Scholarship for the 2015-16 academic year. Van Keuren was also the winner of the George Koenig Family scholarship award.

### ALUMNI NEWS

*Chris Albanese, MUE, MUP ’07,* is currently working toward a doctorate in musical arts in choral conducting at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where he conducts the University of Cincinnati Men’s Chorus. Albanese spent three weeks this summer in Los Angeles studying with Grammy Award-winning conductor Peter Rutenberg for the purpose of research and preparation of his lecture recital and DMA document. His topic is 17th century colonial music in the cathedrals of New Spain, with specific focus on the five Mass settings and sacred villancicos of Juan Gutiérrez de Padilla.

*Erin Basch, MUE ’09,* is the new elementary classroom music teacher in West Carrollton (Ohio) City Schools. She will also assist the middle school choir and the high school orchestra.

*Rebecca Belknap, MUE ’08,* began a new music teaching position in fall 2015 as an elementary classroom music teacher in Northmont City Schools.

*Anna Bumiller Boman, MUE ’10,* earned a Master of Music in cello performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music in 2012, and recently accepted a full-time position teaching general music and orchestra at Van Buren Middle School and Kettering Fairmont High School in Kettering City Schools.

*Bill Burns, MUE ’96,* is teaching general music and jazz ensemble in Centerville City Schools and serving as adjunct professor at Sinclair Community College in Dayton. His duties include teaching saxophone lessons and directing the Sinclair Community Jazz Ensemble. In addition, Burns is an active jazz educator and performer across Southwest Ohio. His most recent project, *Jazz Advice,* is scheduled to be released in December 2015 with the Bright Moments Jazz Quintet. Visit cdbaby.com/cd/billburns for more information.
The Symphonic Wind Ensemble (SWE) is currently completing a recording project featuring the transcriptions of UD music alumnus David Goode, MUE ’68, utilizing the new band rehearsal room recording equipment in Raymond L. Fitz Hall. Goode has sent 16 transcriptions, and over the course of the fall and early spring semesters, SWE will record approximately half of them. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble has already performed two of his arrangements in concerts, Bach’s “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” and Mascagni’s Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana.

Tom Lipps, MUE ’99, was in Dayton July 31, 2015, with Sheena Easton, Sam Harris and the band Rewind to perform at the Schuster Center with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Patrick Reynolds.

Tom Lipps is pictured fifth from the right.

Congratulations to Alison Kohrman Rack, MUE ’05, and family on the birth of their second child, Edmund Bradley. Rack continues to teach classroom music at J.F. Dulles Elementary in Oak Hills Local School District (Cincinnati).

Brian Panetta, MUE ’09, has been promoted to department chair for the visual and performing arts at Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa, Florida.

Willie Morris IV, MUE ’13, has been hired as an advertising associate for The Lorenz Corporation in downtown Dayton. Founded in 1890, The Lorenz Corporation serves as the publishing home for many of today’s leading choral composers, elementary music educators and church musicians.

Erin Radvanski, MUE ’15, recently accepted a full-time teaching position in Wall Township, New Jersey. Her responsibilities include leading the choirs for grades 6–8, conducting a competition choir and teaching special education music classes.

Jacki Schneider, MUE ’10, accepted a new teaching position as director of choral music at Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa, Florida. She recently graduated from Temple University with a master’s degree in opera performance.

Erick Von Sas, MUE ’14, is the new director of bands in the Greenville (Ohio) City Schools.

Sam Kreidenweis, MUP ’10, was a featured soloist with the Vocal Arts Ensemble and the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Craig Hella Johnson for two performances of Johann Sebastian Bach’s B Minor Mass: one in Cincinnati at Christ Church Cathedral, and another at St. Catharine of Siena Catholic Church on November 13 and November 15, respectively. Current studio trumpet teacher Dan Grantham played with the CCO, as did former UD trumpet teacher Ashley Hall, who is the principal trumpet with this orchestra.

Kieran Grace, MUS ’14, (jazz) is working at Aguilar Amplification, located in New York City.
**Yemani Schneider, MUT ’15**, completed his internship in Chillicothe and was hired by Lindsay (Wilkins) Menninger, MUT ’04, to work full-time in her music therapy private practice in southern Ohio and eastern Indiana.

**Lindsey Steinbrunner, MUT ’13**, has been promoted to the position of therapeutic activities coordinator at Haven Behavioral Hospital of Dayton. She is working as a music therapist while also managing the therapy department.

**Bill Burns** (UD MUE alumnus, second from right) plays in a local saxophone quartet (Unity Saxophone Quartet) along with **Hal Melia** (UD MUP alumnus, on left) and **Adam Uhlenhake** (UD MUE alum, second from left) and **Jeff Spurlock** (right).

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**IN APPRECIATION**

Many thanks to **Alice Hotopp**, a longtime voice faculty member who substituted in the fall semester for **Minnita Daniel-Cox** during her leave. It was a pleasure having her smiling face back in the department!

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**PRIDE OF DAYTON MARCHING BAND (POD)**

The Pride of Dayton Marching Band has had another successful fall season. With the return of professor Tremon Kizer, the Pride performed 19 times, learned 47 songs and performed 95 different marching formations. In addition, the Pride donated to and raised money for various organizations in the greater Dayton community.

A special thank you to the **UD Band Alumni Association, Marlene Miller and the FJM Uniform Company** for their wonderful support.

**Pride of Dayton Awards 2015**

**George Koenig Memorial Scholarship** — Katherine Van Keuren, Music Education

**Fred and Marlene Miller Scholarship** — Luke Grieshop, Music Education

**Maurice Reichard Outstanding Senior Award** — Kara Lamantia, Geology

**Marvin Miller Spirit Award** — Sarah Plassenthal, criminal justice, sociology and psychology; Gillian Taylor, music education
ONCE UPON A MATTRESS

A partnership with the UD Theatre Program

The UD Theatre Program and the Department of Music charmed and delighted their audiences Nov. 13–15, 2015, with the presentation of Mary Rodgers, Marshall Barer, Jay Thompson and Dean Fuller's fanciful 1959 musical Once Upon a Mattress in Kennedy Union's Boll Theatre. David Sievers served as music director and conductor with Ryu-Kyung Kim serving as co-music director. The cast included Kara Hancock, MUE '16; Abigail Naveau, MUS '16; Alec Brown, MUP '16; Annie Scott, MUP '17; Josh Houston, MUT '17; Justin Padmore, MUS '16 and Dana Clark, MUS '16, as well as many other music majors in the chorus and other supporting roles.

MUT student Kaiti Shelton poses with client Peter Roll and supervisor Beth (Habegger) Schulz, MUT '07. This is Roll's fourth semester in the on-campus MUT Clinic in Raymond L. Fitz Hall.

First-year students Zach Zielinski and Lesley Wray with horn professor Aaron Brant and the Dayton Philharmonic horn section at a rehearsal.

The cast of Once Upon a Mattress.

AUDITIONS/RECRUITING

ANATOMY OF A UD AUDITION DAY

Audition days are the best way for prospective students and their parents to find out that the University of Dayton is the place they want to be! Families arrive early in the morning to mix and mingle with UD faculty and currently enrolled students over coffee and bagels. After a short presentation, auditioning students head off with their “Flyer Friends” to explore our newly renovated home in Raymond L. Fitz Hall, to attend presentations hosted by various faculty and, of course, to audition for the program. Their parents spend time with faculty representatives, UD music alumni and Kathy Harmon, dean of admission and financial aid. After a master class in their instrumental or vocal area, all gather together for lunch to share experiences about their day before heading into a meeting with degree coordinators to learn about the nuts and bolts of our music degree programs. We know that everyone leaves with all their questions answered and (hopefully!) energized about the prospect of studying music with our highly qualified and passionate faculty at the University of Dayton.

If you know someone who would benefit from information about music at the University of Dayton, or to schedule an audition and be a part of the audition day experience, visit go.udayton.edu/music.

Please feel free to email any Department of Music news you would like to share in a future Descant to ksolarek1@udayton.edu.