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School of Music Faculty/Staff Newsletter

Music

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School of Music Faculty/Staff Newsletter, December 2022

School of Music
Illinois State University

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Illinois State University School of Music Newsletter

December 2022 • Volume 12, No. 4

News and Accomplishments (in alphabetical order):

Ama Oforiwaa Aduonum attended the joint session of the Society for Music Theory, Society for Ethnomusicology, and American Musicological Society in November. She chaired different sessions and also signed and read from her recently published book, *Walking with Asafo in Ghana*, as part of the Rochester University Press 10th anniversary celebrations.

The ISU Symphony and Philharmonia and **Dr. Glenn Block** are immersed in rehearsals preparing for the annual “Music for the Holidays” concerts the weekend of December 10-11! The two ISU orchestras will be merged for the holiday concerts, and a particular highlight for the orchestras are the imaginative section costumes the ISU Symphony has historically prepared for these concerts. The concerts will feature **Dr. Mark Grizzard** conducting several of his holiday arrangements, and **Dr. Igor Kalnin** performing a movement of Vivaldi’s *Winter*.

In November, **David Collier** attended the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC 2022) in Indianapolis, IN. This

Upcoming events:

- 12/2/22
ISU String Project Winter Concert
7:00 PM, CPA and livestream
- 12/4/22
Wind Symphony Concert
3:00 PM, CPA and livestream
- 12/10/22
Music for the Holidays
3:00 PM and 7:00 PM, CPA and livestream
- 12/11/22
Music for the Holidays
3:00 PM, CPA and livestream
- 1/22/23
Band Concerto Competition
2:00 PM, CPA and livestream
- 1/25/23
Concerto-Aria Competition
7:00 PM, CPA and livestream
- 1/30/23
Jury Recognition Recital
7:00 PM, Kemp and livestream

PHOTO ABOVE: MEMBERS OF CONCERT CHOIR AFTER PERFORMING AT GLENBARD WEST HIGH SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER.

News and Accomplishments, cont'd:

conference featured concerts and sessions in every area of percussion by artists from around the world. During PASIC 2022, the Vensa Duo -- featuring ISU School of Music alum **Dr. Ksenija Komljenović** (MM 2014, marimba) and Liana Pailodze Harron (piano)

performed a recital showcasing Dr. Komljenović's arrangement of Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*. While there, Dr. Collier also connected with several other SOM alums: **Elliott Godinez, Kirk Rustman, Chuck Willard, and Miles Bohlman**. Also in November, Dr. Collier performed as principal timpanist with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra in a concert of works by Ibert, Beethoven and Brahms.

Benjamin De Kock is looking forward to welcoming guest artist John (Bebo) Shiu on December 5. Dr. Shiu will be giving a master class for the bass studio as well as giving a presentation for all music students on how to make the most of a freelance career as a performing artist. Dr. Shiu recently earned his doctoral degree to become the first and the only DMA Double Bass graduate under Edwin Barker at Boston University. He is currently the Director of the String Ensemble at Bridgewater State University where he teaches Double Bass, Electric Bass, and other music and anthropology courses. In addition, he serves as Double Bass Artist Faculty at the Longy School of Music and the Killington Music Festival in Vermont.

Geoffrey Duce gave his debut solo recital at Ravinia, performing in the Bennett Gordon Hall on their fall series. He performed a program of Fantasies and Rhapsodies which will be released on a forthcoming album in spring 2023, and will feature the music of C.P.E. Bach, Schubert, John

McCabe, and Dohnanyi, as well as works by W.F. Bach and Bruckner.

Mark Grizzard and the ISU Madrigal Singers welcomed fifteen high school madrigal groups to campus for a day full of performances and clinics at the annual Madrigal Festival on November 11. On

November 15-16, he led Concert Choir on a tour of suburban high schools; the choir visited six schools, performed for and with high school students, and discussed music study at ISU.

ISU's Jazz Combo I will be performing **Kevin Hart's** latest arrangement for the "Music for the Holidays" concert on December 11. Also, Kevin's jazz trio is excited to be performing holiday classics (including a few from Vince Guaraldi's Charlie Brown Christmas) at the Betty Jayne Brimmer Center for the Performing Arts in Peoria Heights on Friday, December 9. Joining Kevin at this event are **Tom Marko** (drums) and Steve Jackson (bass). For tickets and more information, visit:

<https://www.thebettyjayne.com/calendar/2022/12/9-holly-jolly-jazzy-christmas>

Phillip Hash participated in the 2022 NafME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference held near Washington DC from November 3-5. Dr. Hash led a panel discussion on developing a publication record in music education with colleagues from Indiana University and the University of Michigan. He

also presented research posters on "The Instrumental



PHOTO: DAVID COLLIER (CENTER) WITH ALUMNI AT THE PERCUSSIVE ARTS CONVENTION.



PHOTO: GEOFFREY DUCE PERFORMING AT RAVINIA.

Music Lessons of Joseph E. Maddy via Radio” and “Text Readability of Introductory Instrumental Method Books.” **Scott Whitman**, a student in the ISU MMed program, was a coauthor on the study related to method book readability and participated in the poster session. While at the conference, Dr. Hash received the Distinguished Service Award from the History Special Research Interest Group (SRIG). Congratulations, Dr. Hash! Additionally, Dr Hash’s article titled “Student Retention and Attrition in School Orchestras” appeared in the fall 2022 issue of *The Scroll*, the official publication of the Illinois American String Teachers Association. He also presented a professional development session on selecting repertoire for school bands at the ILMEA District 3 Festival at Olivet-Nazarene University in Bourbonnais and served on a PhD dissertation committee at the University of South Florida.



PHOTO: PHIL HASH AND STUDENT SCOTT WHITMAN PRESENT A RESEARCH POSTER AT A CONFERENCE.

In November, **Igor Kalnin** gave a virtual masterclass to graduate violin students at Uzbekistan State Conservatory in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. He also adjudicated the Concerto-Aria Competition at Illinois Wesleyan University in Normal, IL. As a chamber musician, he gave a recital with the Faculty String Quartet in Kemp Recital Hall with his colleagues **Kate Lewis**, **Cora Swenson Lee**, and **Tuyen Tonnu**, and the violin graduate assistant **Gibby Swalley**. They performed music by Haydn and Josef Suk. As an orchestra musician, Dr. Kalnin performed as Associate Concertmaster of Sinfonia da Camera in Urbana, IL. The program included works by Rimsky-Korsakov, Dvorak, and George Walker.

Congratulations to these students who performed their degree recitals in November and December!

Scott Anderson, classical guitar

Kim Baez, voice

Christopher Bulding, flute

Danielle Cahue, clarinet

Lucas Dahmm, trombone

Maddy Dunsworth, violin

Jean Garcera, voice

Allison Hoffman, horn

Madeline Hubbard, flute

Andrea Lucas, voice

Seth Marshall, trumpet

Mark Moen, violin

Briana Morin, saxophone

Deonté Mosely, voice

Chenqi Ouyang, piano

Nathaniel Parson, horn

Sinclair Roechner, flute

Gina Russell, flute

Isaac Rutledge, flute

Samantha Simmons, saxophone

Michael St. Aubin, voice

Andrew Viveros, string bass

Jacob Webber, string bass

Hailey Woock, saxophone

Dr. Cora Swenson Lee is pleased to report that the “ISU viol consort” made their concert debut in November, performing both at Convocation and at the Fall Chamber Music recital. The students in this ensemble learned brand new instruments (treble and tenor viola da gamba) beginning in September and were able to perform three consort pieces in just a matter of weeks!

Katherine Lewis reports that the ISU Viola Studio presented a studio recital in November titled “Bach,

Rock, and Rolla” which included multiple solo, duo and ensemble performances by all members of the studio along with two alumni. Dr. Lewis also adjudicated the Peoria Symphony violin, viola, and cello auditions this fall as well as the Bradley University Concerto Competition.

In early November, **Anne McNamara** returned to Kansas City to perform as the flugelhorn soloist with the Fountain City Brass Band for their 20th anniversary concert and as the gala performance for the US Masters Brass Band Competition. Anne was a featured soloist on an arrangement of Queen's "Who Wants to Live Forever." In October, Anne performed principal trumpet with the Heartland Festival Orchestra on their "Invitation to the Dance" concert; in December, she will return as principal trumpet on their performance of The Nutcracker with the Peoria Ballet.

Recordings of **Midori Samson's** new compositions for bassoon and electronics were accepted for publication in Bi Women Quarterly, Soft Star Magazine, Deadbeat Poets "Bloodbound" Issue, and the Jade Plant Project. These soundscape works use acoustic bassoon, field recordings, and distortion to explore themes of relationships, trauma, and resilience through the lens of her mixed-race and queer identities.

David Snyder performed with the Illinois Valley Symphony on November 5 as 3rd horn. The ensemble performed Schumann's 4th symphony. Dr Snyder also had a chance to work with some fine high school musicians in an all-conference band from Roanoke, Seneca, Henry, Midland and Dwight High Schools. While there, he reconnected with several ISU alumni who now band directors: **Matt Stewart, John Hansen** and **Elliott Driver**.



PHOTO: VIOLA STUDENTS POSE AT THE NOVEMBER "BACH, ROCK, AND ROLLA" RECITAL.



PHOTO: DAVID SNYDER (SECOND ON LEFT) AND ALUMNI PICTURED AT A REGIONAL CONFERENCE.

Justin Vickers has been named [Fundraising Ambassador](#) by the [Britten as a Boy](#) Sculpture Committee for the campaign to install a sculpture of the adolescent Britten in his hometown of Lowestoft, Suffolk, England. The total cost is approximately £100,000.

In this capacity he has already been working with the board and secured the permission of sculptor [Ian Rank-Broadley](#) for the creation of 18-inch and 36-inch bronze maquette's of the sculpture, which will be sold in limited editions of ten castings. Among his many commissions, Rank-Broadley is responsible for the effigy of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on all British coinage since 1998. But he may be most recently known to Americans as the sculptor of HRH The Princess Diana in

commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of her 1997 death, commissioned by her sons, William and Harry. The *Britten as a Boy* sculpture will stand across from Britten's boyhood home on Kirkley Cliff Road in Lowestoft, overlooking the North Sea. Vickers is also providing musicological support for the Committee in the form of written responses to queries about Britten's life and childhood, including the brief essay "Britten and Children" for

the Wigmore Hall. Vickers's recent edited volume *Benjamin Britten in Context* (Cambridge University Press, 2022) received a glowing review in *Gramophone* magazine (August 2022). Vickers has also accepted a new role on the Advisory Board of Encompass New Opera Theatre in New York City, founded in 1975 upon the encouragement of American composer Virgil Thomson. Encompass focuses on the

DECEMBER 2022

promotion, commissioning, and performance of contemporary American opera.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

a celebration of the season with
Illinois State University Choirs, Madrigal Singers, and Symphony Orchestra

Music for the Holidays

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 3:00 P.M. & 7:00 P.M.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 3:00 P.M.
CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS CONCERT HALL

TICKETS \$15 ADULT, \$10 STUDENT/SENIOR • TICKETS AVAILABLE AT (309) 438-2535

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JOIN THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC IN A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON!
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 3:00 PM
CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS CONCERT HALL
TICKETS \$15 ADULT, \$10 STUDENT/SENIOR • TICKETS AVAILABLE AT (309) 438-2535

Have a happy holiday!

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