

## Two Nationally Renowned Pianists to Visit the U.

We are fortunate to have two nationally renowned pianists performing at the U this year. In the fall Angela Hewitt will be performing, and in the spring Gale Berenson will be performing. Please read their biographies below. These events are made possible through the generosity of the Rawlins Family.

### Fall Artist

Pianist Angela Hewitt continues to captivate and charm audiences around the world with her musicianship and virtuosity. Since her triumph in the 1985 Toronto International Bach Piano Competition, she has been hailed as “the Bach pianist *par excellence* of her generation” (*The Sunday Times, London, 1999*). In 1994, she embarked on a ten-year project to record all of the major keyboard works by Bach for the Hyperion label, and all releases so far are receiving worldwide acclaim for their artistry, “effortlessly eclipsing all competitors” (*Gramophone, 1997*). Angela Hewitt’s repertoire is vast, ranging from Bach to the contemporary, and she has performed in recital and with orchestras throughout North America and Europe, as well as in Japan, Australia, China, Mexico and Russia. Born in Canada, Miss Hewitt has made her home in London since 1985.



“Angela Hewitt’s new version of Book I eclipses all others... her playing sounds less like a performance than a personal communion between pianist and composer. Her technique is impeccable, a model of clarity, fluency and discretion. Rhythms dance, tones sing, yet articulation is always clear and precise...something special and uniquely enchanting.”

—*BBC Music Magazine*

“In case anyone were tempted to pigeon-hole Angela Hewitt as a Bach specialist (‘one of the outstanding Bach pianists of our time,’ said *The Sunday Times*), here is a disc to suggest that she has few equals in Messiaen.”

—*Gramophone*

### Spring Artist

Gail Berenson is Professor of Piano and Chair of the Keyboard Division at Ohio University, Athens, where she was awarded the “Distinguished Teacher of the Year” Award for 2000. Prior to her arrival at Ohio University in 1975, she taught at the University of Illinois, Urbana. She maintains an active performing career, presenting solo, two-piano, and a wide range of chamber music recitals. As a result of her distinguished work as a piano pedagogue, along with her reputation as an expert on musician wellness issues, she is much in demand as a performer, clinician, master class artist, adjudicator, author, reviewer and pedagogy consultant. She has performed and lectured in over twenty-five states, as well as Great Britain, Belgium, Switzerland, Israel and Canada.



She currently serves as Vice President of Music Teachers National Association, has also served on the 1996 and 1997 MTNA Conference Committees, held the position of Chair of the 2002 and 2003 Conference Committees and was one of the initial members of the MTNA Pedagogy Committee. She has held several national posts with the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy and the World Piano Pedagogy Conference and is chair of one of the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy’s committees—Wellness for Pianists.

“Schubert’s late B-flat Sonata, D. 960, revealed Miss Berenson’s ability to draw and sustain broad paragraphs and successfully handle music composed on a large canvas.”

—*The Times (London)*



## Greetings from the U!

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Many great things happened in MUSIC at the U this past year. A few of the notable items are:

- The Department of Music was named "Department of the Year" by the Student Association;
- Music majors Kristin Siebrands and Derick Rehurek were two of five national awardees of a \$1000 scholarship each from *String Magazine*;
- Several of our undergraduate and graduate students gave presentations at research forums held on campus;
- Graduate student, Eric Mosterd, and undergraduates, Katie Lorenzen and Teresa Gonzalez, gave presentations at national research conferences;
- Katie Lorenzen, music education major, received a music teacher grant from the NABIM-MENC;
- Our vocal students continue to place well at the state SDMTA competition.

This has been a good year for Music at the U.

Faculty members are active with their research. Dr. Stephen Yarbrough, Professor of Theory and Composition, was awarded a \$10,000 grant to write a piece for the National Symphony Orchestra. It is scheduled for premiere at the Kennedy Center in 2005 or 2006. Dr. David Moskowitz, Professor of Musicology, signed a book deal with Greenwood Press. Additionally, several faculty members received grants to assist in their research endeavors.

We continue to raise funds to augment the Aiello/Torkelson Vocal Scholarship Fund. As of this writing, there is \$11,320.33 in the account. We have only two more years to reach the goal of \$20,000. We must reach that target before it can generate spendable earnings. Please consider a donation to this fund to help us reach our goal. Frank and Larry stop by the department occasionally to visit. They both continue very active musical lives.

I want to thank all those who have donated to the Department of Music this past year. Your valuable assistance has allowed us to make scholarship awards to help many students with their college career. See the inside of this newsletter to view all the awards made for the 2004-2005 academic year. We have many talented students attending the U., and your financial assistance is of great benefit to them.

As I write this article, the College of Fine Arts is greeted with the introduction of a new college dean. Daniel Guyette, formerly Theatre Chair at University of Northern Colorado, began his tenure at the U on July 12. After an extensive national search during the Spring semester, President Abbott announced the hiring of Guyette. John Day has returned to the classroom to teach.

The department is also fortunate to have two new faculty members joining us this year. This past Spring, Dr. Darin Wadley was hired as the new Professor of Percussion. He comes to us from Southern Utah University. Darin will be teaching studio percussion, percussion ensemble, drumline in the Marching Band and freshman music theory. Our second hire is that of James Nixon "Nick" Curry as the new interim Professor of Cello and member of the Rawlins Piano Trio. Nick is completing his doctoral work at Northwestern University in Chicago. We will be conducting a national search this coming year to fill the tenure track cello position.

Plan now for 2005. The Chamber Singers and Brass Choir will be touring northern Germany, Denmark, and Norway in May of 2005. It would be great to have you along. Contact Dr. Matthew Harden 605-677-5721 or Dr. Rolf Olson 605-677-5727 if you have an interest in going on the trip.

As always, during your next visit to Vermillion, please stop by the Department of Music to say hello.

Best wishes,

Larry Schou, Chair

# Kansas City's Doug Talley Quartet Performs at USD

"There has always been great jazz in Kansas City—thanks to the Doug Talley Quartet, there still is," raved Bob Bernotas in *Midwest Jazz* magazine. There was great jazz in Vermillion on Friday, April 16, in Colton Recital Hall on the USD Campus, when the Doug Talley Quartet performed a concert with The University of South Dakota jazz ensembles.

The group consists of Talley on saxophone, Wayne Hawkins, piano, Tim Brewer, bass, and Keith Kavanaugh, drums. They have performed at festivals and concerts throughout the Midwest, and individual group members have played with jazz luminaries such as Jay McShann, Bobby Watson, Diane Schuur, and Eddie Harris. The group has released several CDs, including *Night and Day*, featuring the music of Cole Porter, and the acclaimed *Kansas City Suite*, a multi-movement composition by Talley that, in the words of Rod McBride in *JAM Magazine*, "takes you through a collage of jazz selections dedicated to the sights and sounds that make Kansas City what it is (and was)." The tunes evoke the many moods of the city ("City of Fountains" and "Stockyard Blues") and pay tribute to Kansas City jazz greats ("Basie and the Prez," Talley's dedication to the Count and saxophonist Lester Young, nicknamed the president of the tenor saxophone).

Active as performers and jazz educators, the Doug Talley Quartet was on campus at The University of South Dakota April 15 and 16 presenting clinics and rehearsing and working with student performing groups.

The event was supported by a visiting scholar grant from the university, the Selmer Corporation, and Mollet Music.

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## String Events at the U.

USD alumnus Chris Freitag appeared as guitar soloist with the USD Chamber Orchestra and gave a chamber music concert with John Thomson and Lee Thorson. Many of Chris' former friends were able to attend. Emeriti Professors Jack Noble and Larry Torkelson, who remember having Chris as a student, were able to enjoy his playing and reminisce about former times. Chris works for McGraw-Hill in New York. His company generously provided a reception for the public after Chris' wonderful concert with the Chamber Orchestra.

The USD Chamber Singers and the USD Chamber Orchestra toured through South Dakota in October. The groups performed for schools in Freeman, Pierre, and in the Black Hills. They continued the collaboration later in the semester giving two performances of Handel's *Messiah* in Sioux City and Vermillion. Dr. Harden conducted both performances.

The USD Spring Orchestra Festival included participants from South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, and North Dakota. In addition to rehearsals, the students attended presentations on violin making and the history of Vivaldi and the violin makers of his time. One of the highlights of the festival was the use of instruments made by Minnesota craftsman Arnold Anderson and members of his family. The makers generously lent seven instruments that were played by student soloists in the performance of *Concerto for Four Violins* by Vivaldi. The Festival concert was conducted by USD professor John Thomson and featured music of Vivaldi.



## Music Student Receives MENC Award

Senior music education major, Trudy Jelsma, was awarded an MENC Collegiate Professional Achievement Award in May for her contributions to USD's Collegiate MENC Chapter. This award, presented by MENC: The National Association for Music Education, recognizes outstanding collegiate members for their commitment, leadership, and dedication to MENC and music education. During her college career, Trudy held the offices of Treasurer and President of Chapter 343, and Chair of USD's 2002 Collegiate MENC Day. As President, Trudy was instrumental in revising the Chapter's By-laws and overseeing the various projects and fundraisers of the organization. She also demonstrated outstanding leadership skills by organizing and scheduling the sessions, securing guest clinicians for the day's events, and presiding at each of the sessions for the Collegiate MENC Day mini-conference.

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## Dakota Baroque

The Dakota Baroque and Classic Company gave a performance as part of the Black Hills Chamber Music series in April. USD professors Dr. Susanne Skyrn, Dr. Larry Schou, and Dr. John Thomson presented music for the audience on historical copied instruments. Several of these instruments belong to the National Music Museum and, therefore, highlight this unique treasure to be found at USD.



## Pi Kappa Lambda

On Saturday evening, May 1, the *Theta Upsilon* chapter of *Pi Kappa Lambda* held its annual member induction ceremony. The ceremony was conducted by Dr. Susanne Skyrms, president of the chapter. Dr. Larry Schou, Chair of the Music Department, presented certificates of membership and pins to the inductees. Selected for membership (left to right) were seniors Trudy Jelsma, Mary McWeeny, and Jeff Robilliard.

*Pi Kappa Lambda* is the national honor society for music. Members are selected by the faculty based on their scholarly achievements and represent the top 20% of those full-time music majors who graduate within the calendar year. Since *Theta Upsilon's* establishment on The University of South Dakota campus in 1999, twenty-six students have been selected for this honor.

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## Professors Give Premiere Performance

USD professors Dr. Larry Schou and Dr. John Thomson gave the world premiere performance of "Fantasy Variations" for Violin and Harpsichord by the composer Kenneth Klauss. Klauss was born in Parkston, SD but has lived in LA for most of his life. Thomson and Schou commissioned this piece, and they have played it on several occasions since the premiere at the Klauss-James Archive in Parkston. They both love this moving work and plan to perform it at future concerts.

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Visit us at  
[www.usd.edu/cfa/Music](http://www.usd.edu/cfa/Music)

## USD Brass Choir and Chamber Singers to go on European Tour

The University of South Dakota Brass Choir and Chamber Singers are planning a trip to Germany, Denmark, and Norway for May 9–20, 2005. The trip includes performances in Leipzig, Lübeck, Copenhagen, Trondheim, and Oslo. The choir will fly from Sioux Falls to Berlin having some time to relax and/or visit area tourist sites. Then we are off to Leipzig to perform in the Thomas Kirche where J. S. Bach and Mendelssohn were employed. Next we go to Lübeck and perform in Buxtehude's Marienkirche. Then we go off to Copenhagen to visit the Jazz Clubs and sing for a Sunday Church service. The choir will then travel to Norway to perform at a variety of sites still to be determined. Finally we finish in Oslo with a farewell performance and dinner for the choirs. While in Norway, we will visit two USD Alumni living there in addition to our concerts. Abbott Travel in Sioux Falls is coordinating all of the arrangements and accompanying as our guides. A full itinerary is posted on the USD Music Department Website with information if you would be interested in accompanying us or sponsoring one of our student musicians.

It is possible for USD Alumni and friends to accompany the choirs on this trip. The price of the trip will include airfare, housing, two meals a day, land travel and sight-seeing when the choir is rehearsing. If you would be interested in joining the Brass Choir and Chamber Singers on their trip, please check out the music department website for further information and/or contact Pam Pfeifar of Abbott Travel by phone (605) 731-2195. This should be an exciting trip for all involved and we welcome your participation.

Our students have been busy raising funds for the trip and are presently raffling off two round trip tickets to anywhere in the continental United States via Northwest Airlines. The drawing for these tickets will take place in December and be announced at the Holiday Concert. You do not need to be present win. If interested in purchasing raffle tickets, contact either Dr. Matt Harden (605-677-5721) or Dr. Rolf Olson (605-677-5727).



Several of the Chamber Singers performed at the house of President and Mrs. Abbott.

# Rawlins Fall Series Brings Prominent Pianists to Campus

On November 13, 2004, the USD Department of Music will present the Rawlins Fall Visiting Artist Series, featuring Canadian pianist Angela Hewitt in recital and master class. Hailed as "the pre-eminent Bach pianist of our time (*The Guardian*, London, 2001), Ms. Hewitt is a rising star on the concert horizon. Her repertoire is vast, ranging from Bach to the present day. She has performed and given master classes and lectures throughout the world and is a prize-winner in numerous important piano competitions.

Thanks to a generous gift from Mrs. R.E. Rawlins of Balboa Island, California, the Department of Music has hosted a piano recital and master class by an internationally-known concert pianist since 1996. A USD alumna with a degree in piano performance, Mrs. Rawlins believes that an integral part of a pianist's education is the possibility to hear world-class keyboard artists and to attend and play in master classes given by these artists. The Rawlins Fall Visiting Artist Series offers USD music students the opportunity to hear and work with artists who would otherwise only be heard in places such as New York, Chicago, Minneapolis, or Los Angeles.

The 2003 Rawlins Fall Visiting Artist was Italian pianist Emanuele Arciuli, who played an exciting recital of new music. The Vermillion audience heard the same program that Arciuli presented several days later in New York, featuring composers such as Scelsi, Feldman, Rastelli, John Adams, Stockhausen, Rzewski, and others. "This was a great opportunity to hear what is happening in piano composition right now," said USD piano professor Dr. Susanne Skyrms. "Being somewhat isolated here in Vermillion, we rarely have the chance to hear 'cutting edge' music. Mr. Arciuli's superb musicianship, virtuosity and sense of humor really brought these compositions to life."

Other pianists who have appeared in the Rawlins Series include Stephen Hough, John O'Connor, Ann Schein, Lida Lopez Mancheva, Angela Cheng, Lee Luvisi, and Nelita True. The concerts and master classes are always free and open to the public, drawing audience members from throughout the upper Midwest region.

No less important than the recital is the master class that each of the visiting pianists presents for USD piano students and potential piano majors. "Our students have the opportunity to coach with some of the finest artists in the world today," said Skyrms. "At a larger school, competition to play in these classes is fierce, and most students would probably only be able to audit the class. The Rawlins Series is a unique component in the tradition of excellence maintained by the USD Keyboard Division over the years."

For more information on this year's concert and master class, contact Dr. Susanne Skyrms at [sskyrms@usd.edu](mailto:sskyrms@usd.edu) or (605) 677-5723.

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## Rawlins Trio Performs

The Rawlins Piano Trio gave performances in the Beethoven/Berlioz presentation at the Washington Pavilion and in the Des Moines region in the fall of 2003. They followed up the latter with visits to several schools in Des Moines. The USD Music Dept. participated in the Beethoven/Berlioz exhibition at the Sioux Falls Washington Pavilion in the fall of 2003. The Rawlins Piano Trio, along with Dr. Susanne Skyrms and Dr. Christopher Mitchell, performed to open this display arranged by the National Music Museum.

# Music Research at the U

During the 2003-2004 academic year, USD undergraduate and graduate-level music students were involved in a wide array of research activities. This research culminated in presentations both within South Dakota and across the country. USD music students presented at the following events: the 2004 IdeaFest, the 2004 Forum for Graduate Student Research and Creative Work, the Lewis and Clark Summer Research Program, the 2004 National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR), and Educause.

The following music students were active in IdeaFest, held on March 30, 2004. Participating in the student showcase were Erin Cornelius with the paper "Opera Houses in the Tri-State Area," Teresa Gonzalez with the paper "Jazz Along the Missouri," and Julie Clifford with the lecture/performance "The Personality and Manic-Depressive Episodes of Robert Schumann." Other musicians in the student showcase were Katie Lorenzen discussing "The Power of Songs in the Lakota Culture as Shown in the Literary Works of Delphine Red Shirt," and Michael Suing, who presented the paper "La Joya del Camino: Musical Instruments Iconography on the Exterior of the Santa Maria Cathedral, Leon, Spain."

On April 23, 2004, the Office of Research and Graduate School sponsored the Second Forum for Graduate Student Research and Creative Work. Three master's-level music majors participated. Rita Nauman presented the paper "Marcabru: A Troubadour." Christy Kimball's paper discussed "Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel's *Das Jahr*," and Lloyd Potter presented the paper, "From Peasant Strummers to Court Virtuosi: the Rise of the Five-Course Guitar."

Regarding presentation of research across the country, Katie Lorenzen, Erin Cornelius, and Teresa Gonzalez presented their research at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Indianapolis, IN. In addition, graduate music major Eric Mosterd presented the paper "Incorporating PDAs into the Music Curriculum" at the Midwest Regional Educause Conference, April 22, 2004. Department of Music faculty sponsors for student research include: Drs. Deborah Check Reeves, Susanne Skyrms, Gary Reeves, and David Moskowitz. The accomplishments listed above exemplify the type of work and dedication to research that is actively taking place in the Department of Music.

# New Faculty



## **James Nixon (Nick) Curry—Cello**

Nick Curry joined the Rawlins Piano Trio and the Department of Music string faculty in the fall of 2004. He was born in Atlanta, Georgia, where he studied cello with David Starkweather from the University of Georgia. Nick received his Bachelor of Music degree from Vanderbilt University, where he studied with Grace Mihi Bahng. While at

Vanderbilt, he served as Professor Bahng's teaching assistant, and was the recipient of the Jean Keller Heard award for excellence in string playing. Nick then served as Hans Jorgen Jensen's teaching assistant for five years at Northwestern University, where he earned his masters degree and completed his course work and comprehensive exams for his doctoral degree. He also was the teaching assistant to Professor Jensen at the Meadowmount School of Music for four summers. While at Northwestern, Nick soloed with the Northwestern Philharmonic Orchestra and won the Northwestern chamber music competition. Nick co-founded the Signature Ensemble, a group that was named the official outreach group for Northwestern University. The ensemble played many concerts in the Chicago area and also performed masterclasses at area high schools. Nick has played in masterclasses for Lynn Harrell, Ralph Kirschbaum, Paul Katz, David Geber, the Emerson String Quartet, the Pacifica String Quartet and the Blair String Quartet. Private studies have also included Harvey Shapiro, David Finckel, and John Kochanowski. Currently, Nick is completing his dissertation, which is an examination of the physical and mental similarities in playing a string instrument and playing sports.



## **Dr. Darin Wadley—Percussion**

Dr. Darin Wadley is an Assistant Professor of Music (Percussion) at The University of South Dakota. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in percussion performance from the University of Arizona. He also holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas and a Bachelor of Music degree from Northern Illinois

University, both in percussion performance.

Prior to his appointment to USD, Dr. Wadley was Director of Percussion Studies at Southern Utah University. Dr. Wadley has held professional engagements with the Tony® Award winning Utah Shakespearean Festival, Sioux City Symphony Orchestra, Tucson Symphony Orchestra, Arizona Opera, and the Nevada Symphony Orchestra. He is an active performer, clinician and adjudicator throughout the nation. An area of interest for Dr. Wadley is contemporary music. He is an advocate of new music and actively participates in bringing new works and composers to the public. To this end, he commissions and premieres new works for percussion in both the solo and chamber setting.



## **Department of Music Faculty**

**Professor Nick Curry**, studio cello, music appreciation, Rawlins Piano Trio; 677-5186; jcurry@usd.edu

**Dr. Darlene Fett**, music education, studio voice; 677-5720; dfett@usd.edu

**Dr. Susan Keith Gray**, studio piano, class piano, Rawlins Piano Trio; 677-5724; skgray@usd.edu

**Dr. Matthew Harden**, Director of Choral Activities, studio voice, choral literature; 677-5721; mharden@usd.edu

**Dr. Christopher Kocher**, studio saxophone, woodwinds, jazz studies; 677-5728; ckocher@usd.edu

**Stephanie Kocher**, flute; 677-5306; skocher@usd.edu

**Professor Christopher Mitchell**, studio voice, opera workshop, vocal solo, literature and techniques; 677-5718; cmitchel@usd.edu

**Dr. Lawrence L. Mitchell**, studio low brass, Director of Bands, 677-5726; llmitche@usd.edu

**Dr. David Moskowitz**, music history, Director of Graduate Studies, 677-5716; dmoskowi@usd.edu

**Dr. Rolf Olson**, studio trumpet, brass choir, jazz ensemble, marching band; 677-5727; rsolson@usd.edu

**Dr. Deborah Check Reeves**, Curator of Education at the National Music Museum, clarinet; 677-5306; dreeves@usd.edu

**Dr. Gary L. Reeves**, horn, conducting, instrumental methods, bands, 677-5715; greeves@usd.edu

**Dr. Richard Rognstad**, studio cello & bass, string methods, orchestra, American music, music theory; 677-5722; rrognsa@usd.edu

**Dr. Larry Schou**, chair, studio organ, harpsichord, world music; 677-5275; lschou@usd.edu

**Dr. Susanne Skyrn**, studio piano, class piano; 677-5723; sskyrn@usd.edu

**Dr. Sue Ann Stutheit**, studio voice, diction, choir, vocal jazz; 677-5719; sstuthei@usd.edu

**Dr. John Thomson**, studio violin & viola, chamber orchestra, Rawlins Piano Trio; 677-5725; jathomso@usd.edu

**Dr. Darin Wadley**, studio percussion, percussion methods, percussion ensemble, drumline, music theory; 677-5730; dwadley@usd.edu

**Dr. Stephen Yarbrough**, music theory, composition, electronic studio; 677-5717; syarbrou@usd.edu

# 2004–2005 Department of Music Activities

*Schedule subject to change. Please check the U Calendar ([www.usd.edu](http://www.usd.edu)) as date approaches to confirm!*

Aug. 29	1 pm	Choral Auditions Sign up sheet on Dr. Harden's door	FA 129
Aug. 30	1:30 pm	Graduate Student Meeting	FA 144
Sept. 2	11 am	First Recital Lab	Colton Recital Hall
Sept. 2	7 pm	Marching Band: USD v. Peru State	Dakota Dome
Sept. 9	5:30 pm	MENC Picnic	Prentis Park
Sept. 11	2 pm	Marching Band: USD v. MN State:Moorhead	Dakota Dome
Sept. 16	11 am	Ondrozeck Lecture Series—Dr. Matthew Harden	Colton Recital Hall
Sept. 17-18		Marching Band – Korean War Memorial Celebration	Pierre
Sept. 22		2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual All-State Choir Workshop-Knutson Theatre	Colton Recital Hall
Sept. 23	11 am	Ondrozeck Lecture Series—Dr. Nanette DeJong	Colton Recital Hall
Sept. 30	11 am	Ondrozeck Lecture Series—Don Langley/Pepper Music	Colton Recital Hall
Oct. 1-2		Dakota Days	
Oct. 2	2 pm	Marching Band: USD v. Augustana	Dakota Dome
Oct. 9		Quad State Marching Competition	Dakota Dome
Oct. 16	2 pm	Marching Band: USD v. St. Cloud	Dakota Dome
Oct. 17-18		MENC Days	USD Music Dept
Oct. 28-30		SD All State Chorus/Orchestra	Aberdeen
Oct. 30	2 pm	Marching Band: USD v. MN: Duluth	Dakota Dome
Nov. 2	7:30 pm	Fall Choral Showcase	Slagle Auditorium
Nov. 4-7		SDMTA Conference	Sioux Falls
Nov. 5-9		Chamber Singers Tour	
Nov. 9	7:30 pm	Percussion Ensemble	Colton Recital Hall
Nov. 12	9-11 am	Rawlins Visiting Artist Masterclass Angela Hewitt, piano	Colton Recital Hall
Nov. 12	7:30 pm	USD Jazz Ensembles Fall Concert	Knutson Theatre
Nov. 13	8 pm	Rawlins Visiting Artist Concert Angela Hewitt, piano	Colton Recital Hall
Nov. 19	7:30 pm	USD Symphonic Band/Brass Choir Concert	Slagle Auditorium
Nov. 21	3 pm	Tom Cronin, Senior Baritone Saxophone Recital	Colton Recital Hall
Dec. 5	3 pm	Amber Nepodal, Senior Trumpet Recital	Colton Recital Hall
Dec. 6	8 pm	USD Community Orchestra Concert	Slagle Auditorium
Dec. 12	3 pm	Holiday Concert	Slagle Auditorium
Dec. 15		Finals – First Day	
Jan. 24		USD Quad State Honor Band	Knutson Theatre
Jan. 24	7 pm	Honor Band Concert	Knutson Theatre
Feb. 6	3 pm	Matt Nesmith, Graduate Voice Recital	Colton Recital Hall
Feb. 24-25		Siouxland Trombone Festival	Music Department
Feb. 25	7 pm	Festival Concert	Vermillion High School
Feb. 28	10 am	Children's Orchestra Concert	Slagle Auditorium
	8 pm	Children's Orchestra Concert	Slagle Auditorium
Mar. 1	7:30 pm	Brass Choir/Chamber Singers Spring Concert	Slagle Auditorium
Mar. 2	8 pm	USD Concert Band	Knutson Theatre
Mar. 3	7:30 pm	USD Jazz Ensembles Concert	Knutson Theatre
Mar. 15		USD Coyote Jazz Festival	USD Campus
Mar. 18	3-5 pm	Truran Guest Artist Presentation	Colton Recital Hall
Mar. 18	7 pm	Spring Orchestra Festival	Knutson Theatre
Mar. 19		Truran Piano Competition	Music Department
Mar. 19	8 pm	Truran Guest Artists Gail Berenson, piano; Alison Brown Sincoff, flute	Colton Recital Hall
Mar. 20	3 pm	USD Symphonic Band Concert	Slagle Auditorium
Apr. 13	7:30 pm	USD Jazz Ensembles	Colton Recital Hall
Apr. 15	7:30 pm	USD Symphonic Band/Brass Choir Concert	Slagle Auditorium
Apr. 26	8 pm	USD Concert Band Concert	Knutson Theatre
Apr. 29	7:30 pm	USD Community Orchestra/Choirs Concert	Slagle Auditorium
May 9-20		Chamber Singers & Brass Choir to Europe	
June 13-15		Drumline Camp	
June 22-24		Music Directors Institute	
July 10-15		Summer Music Camp	

# 2004–2005 Music Scholarship Award Recipients

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## Usher and Barnes Abell Family String Scholarship Endowment

Catherine Blunck  
Christine Blunck  
Kelsey Higbee  
Theresa Mairose

## GeLoris E. and Olaf C. Akland Scholarship

Michael Javorsky  
Amy Johnson

## Elizabeth Kathryn Ames Music Scholarship Endowment

Julie Borg  
Amy Goble  
Audra Larson  
Elizabeth Morgan

## Ronald Oakley Barkl Memorial Scholarship

Heather Reeves  
Scott Townsend

## Gary D. Begeman and Gail E. Griffith

### Instrumental Music Education Annual Scholarship

Brett Baker  
Fred Banks  
Lucas Burk  
David Hantla  
Kristi Linn  
Elizabeth Morgan  
Amber Nepodal  
Adam Perry  
Matthew Symes  
Brett Welte  
Todd Zorr

## The Mary Ellen Stanley Beukelman Scholarship

Brett Baker  
Angela Gough  
Stephanie Norberg

## The Matthew P. Brzica Scholarship Fund

James Dittman  
Elizabeth Morgan

## Ray DeVilbiss Band Scholarship

Fred Banks  
Jessica Chavera  
Kelsey Higbee  
Elizabeth Morgan

## David William Eyres Memorial Scholarship

Randy Niles

## Louise Hansen Memorial Music Scholarship

Mike Bossman  
Amy Johnson  
Kjersten Ohrlund  
David Williams

## Murrell F. Kautz Scholarship

Elizabeth Nettleton  
Randy Niles

## L&R Annual String Scholarship/Development Fund

Tanya Fye  
Brandi Oviedo  
Emily Pieper

## Arne B. and Jeanne F. Larson Scholarship

Maggie Knudsen Sampson  
Audra Larson  
Elizabeth Naber

## Robert C. and Leona P. Marek Scholarship Endowment

Channey Leaneagh  
Andrea Reinicke

## Special Strings Scholarship

Channey Leaneagh  
Brandi Oviedo

## Marjorie Townsley Rawlins Music

### Scholarship Endowment

Elizabeth Brockway  
Gina Hettle  
Brandi Oviedo  
Derick! Rehurek  
Kristin Siebrands  
Kevin Skadeland

## The Rawlins Chair Scholarship

Rhea Ehresmann  
Jennifer Goforth  
Rebecca Matt  
Julie Nelson

## Gary L. and Deborah C. Reeves Scholarship

Amy Goble

## John A. and Agnes J. Ringley Scholarship

Meredith Allen  
Elizabeth Brockway  
Lucas Burk  
Patrick Byrnes  
Nelson Chang  
Jessica Chavera  
Deborah Christiansen  
Joshua Cope  
Tom Cronin  
Michelle Dahl  
Lee Duncanson  
Kara Engstrom  
Erin Flannery  
Amber Forbes  
Brian Forney  
Melissa Giggee  
Andrea Grimm  
David Hantla  
Matt Hittle  
Conor Jensen  
Evie Johnson  
Jason Johnson  
Christopher Larson  
Amanda Leisten  
Katie Lorenzen  
Amanda Mark  
Rebecca McDowell  
Ryan Meyer  
Meghan Mordhorst  
Elizabeth Naber  
Amber Nepodal  
Patrick Ondrozeck  
Adam Perry  
Meghan Powell  
Heather Reeves  
Amanda Sedlacek  
Joel Shotwell  
Jessica Spivey  
Matthew Symes  
Amanda VandeZande  
Callie Wallenberg  
Kimberly Weiser  
Deirdre Whitman

## Genevieve and John Truran Piano Scholarships

Anne Bertschinger  
Matthew Besta  
Ashley Boehnke  
Julie Borg  
Mike Bossman  
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## EUROPE TOUR 2005

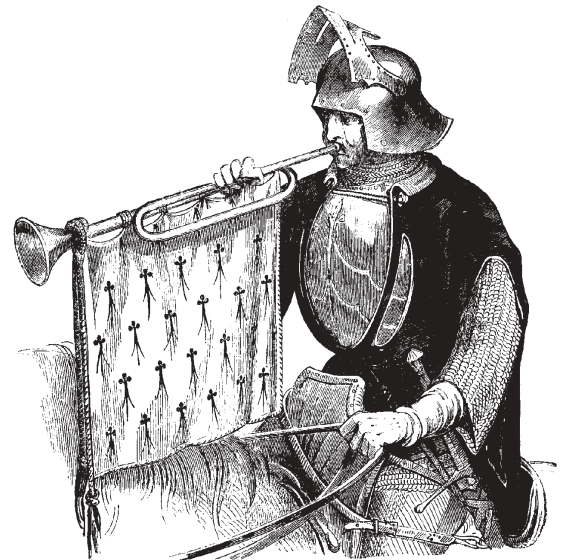
Alumni are invited to go on the trip!

Contact:

Dr. Matthew Harden  
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or

Dr. Rolf Olson  
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# Collegiate MENC News

The fifty members of USD's Collegiate Chapter 343 of MENC: The Music Educators National Conference had a very busy and productive year. Officers for the year were Rebecca Assmus, President; Ryan Meyer, Vice-President; Katie Lorenzen, Secretary; and Tom Cronin, Treasurer. Their first event, co-sponsored with the Music Department, was the annual Departmental Picnic held in Prentis Park during the first week of classes. The sixth annual Collegiate MENC Day was held on October 20, 2003. The theme for the day-long mini-conference was "Connect With Music." Joining the USD chapter were students and advisors from the University of Sioux Falls and South Dakota State University chapters. USD Chapter President Rebecca Assmus welcomed members and guests and introduced the chapter officers, as well as the Chair for the event, Maggie Knudsen Sampson. Mr. Steven Lyons, Director of Bands at Champlin Park, MN High School, delivered the keynote address on Leadership skills. Mr. Lyons also presented a session on Rehearsal Techniques for Your Marching Band. Other sessions included Teaching Multicultural Music to Children (Mr. Lance Lehmborg, Sioux City, IA), Internet Presence for School Ensembles (Mr. Charles Henson, System Analyst for Xerox Corporation), and Tips and Techniques to Make Your Show Choir Great! (USD Alum Mrs. Kristin Iverson, Vermillion High School

Choral Director). The noon luncheon, catered by Chapter 343 members, was held at the National Music Museum on the USD campus.

During the year, chapter members sold shirts and buttons for the Quad State Field Marching Competition, carried out their Holiday Door Decoration fund-raiser in the Music Department, sold concessions and buttons for the Coyote Jazz Festival, and celebrated Music In Our Schools Month in March by presenting gift baskets to the judges for the Coyote Jazz Festival, to music teachers in the Vermillion schools, and to the USD music faculty. In February, several members attended the South Dakota Music In-Service Conference in Brookings. Additionally, President Rebecca Assmus attended the National MENC Convention in Minneapolis in April.

The Chapter purchased a brick for the "Walk of Fame" at the National MENC Headquarters in Reston, VA. The brick has the chapter's name, university, and state on it, and, along with bricks purchased by other chapters and individuals nation-wide, forms the entrance to the national headquarters building. Chapter 343 also received an Outstanding Chapter Growth certificate from the National MENC office for increased membership during the academic year.



*Kirsten Iverson's show choir session.*



*Registration at MENC Day*



*Lance Lehmborg presentation on Multicultural Music.*



*2003 Officers*

*Row 1 (L to R) Maggie Knudsen Sampson, MENC Day Chair; Katie Lorenzen, Secretary; Row 2 (L to R) Tom Cronin, Treasurer; Rebecca Assmus, President; Ryan Meyer, Vice-President*

# Truran Piano Competition Winners Chosen

The Tenth Annual Genevieve Truran Piano Competition for Grades 8-12 was held Saturday, February 28, 2004 at The University of South Dakota. Nearly forty young pianists from Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota and North Dakota competed for cash awards in each age group. First Place winners received \$100; Second Place, \$50. The adjudicators for the event were Alexandra Mascolo-David from Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan for Grades 11 and 12, and Carol Flower from the University of Sioux Falls for Grades 8, 9 and 10. Each contestant performed two or three contrasting works by memory.

The 2004 winners included: Grade 8—First Place: Xiao yi Li, Yankton, SD (student of Susan Keith Gray); Second Place: Robbie Nicholas, Huron, SD (Beverly Bigge) and Honorable Mention: Kiera Cautivar, Sioux City, IA (Michelle Grossman.)

Grade 9—1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jessica Shoemaker, Hawarden, IA (Lisa Duitman); 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Holly Hooyer, Sioux Center, IA (Lisa Duitman) and HM: Victoria Looyenga, Rapid City, SD (Lori & Paul Looyenga)

Grade 10—1st Place: Stephanie Wulff, Blair, NE (Gail Dunning) and 2nd Place: Ben Smith, Sioux Falls, SD (Arlene Krueger)

Grade 11—1st Place: Heather Hooyer, Sioux Center, IA (Lisa Duitman); 2nd Place tie: Peter Severson, Sioux Falls, SD (Arlene Krueger) and Kelly Kappen, Sioux Falls, SD (Arlene Krueger); HM: Rachel Unekis, Rock Rapids, IA (Phyllis Morlock TeSlaa), Rebekah Wortman, George, IA (Lisa Duitman); Ellen Kramer, Sioux Falls, SD (Arlene Krueger) and Rachel Ausborn, Lytton, IA (Deb Ausborn)

Grade 12—1st Place Tie: Kenneth Parker, Casselton, ND (Dr. William R. Babcock) and Jonathan Varns, Sioux Falls, SD (Rick Andrews); 2nd Place tie: Conor Jensen, Beresford, SD (Susan Keith Gray) and Elizabeth Hoarty, Wessington Springs (Susan Keith Gray) and HM: Katrina Meidinger, Centerville, SD (Marilyn Schempp), Ashley Jans, Blue Earth, MN (Myrna Eppeland) and Katie Schrader, Lincoln, NE (Gloria Elliott).

The competition is supported by the Genevieve and John Truran Fund, for which it is named, and is organized each year by the Keyboard Area of the USD Department of Music. Genevieve Truran, a native of Pierre, SD, joined the music faculty at The University of South Dakota in 1920 where she taught piano on a full-time basis for forty-seven years. Many of Professor Truran's students have been unusually successful as professional musicians, as teachers in many of the nation's major colleges and universities, and as private teachers throughout the nation.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Susan Keith Gray at 605-677-5724 or [skgray@usd.edu](mailto:skgray@usd.edu) or Dr. Susanne Skyrms at 605-677-5723 or [sskyrm@usd.edu](mailto:sskyrm@usd.edu).

# USD Piano Activities feature Visiting Scholar

Each year the USD piano area sponsors visits by guest artists and hosts the annual Genevieve Truran High School Piano Competition for grades 8-12. The 2004 activities featured pianist and teacher Alexandra Mascolo-David on February 27-28. The event was co-sponsored by the USD Truran Fund and the USD Office of Research Visiting Scholar Program.

Alexandra Mascolo-David is described in the Washington Post as "a splendid pianist—refined, searching and expressive, and her playing is loaded with insight and interpretative detail." In recent years, she has centered her repertoire around the evocative piano music of Portuguese and Brazilian composers, especially that of Francisco Mignone. Her compact disc recording of Volume One of Mignone's "Valsas brasileiras" was released in February 2001. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution praised this release by stating: "Young Portuguese pianist Alexandra Mascolo-David's debut disc is a treasure...she plays them [the waltzes] with a poetic, almost improvisatory spirit, in full command of the composer's urbane voice...a notable disc..."

During her visit at USD, Mascolo-David lectured on Portuguese and Brazilian piano music, taught a piano master class for USD and area piano students, and played a public recital. Her recital included a portion of the *Valsas brasileiras* as well as works of Antônio Fragoso, Domenico Scarlatti and Czech composer, Leos Janacek. On Saturday, she adjudicated the 10th annual Truran competition.

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# Chamber Singers Perform with South Dakota Symphony

On May 8 and 9, 2004, The University of South Dakota Chamber Singers joined choirs from Augustana College, the University of Sioux Falls, and the South Dakota Symphony Chorus to perform Beethoven's *Choral Fantasia* and *Ninth Symphony* with the South Dakota Symphony under the baton of Henry Charles Smith. One of the performances was broadcast on South Dakota Public Radio on Monday, May 31, 2004. Henry Charles Smith shared with the choir, "Thanks so much for your wonderful work in preparing your singers for the Beethoven concerts. It was a joy to work with each of you. I could not have been more happy with the way the concerts went."

These performances culminated a very busy year for the choir that included a West River Tour with the USD Chamber Orchestra, December performances of Handel's *Messiah* with the Chamber Orchestra, a February concert with the Brass Choir, a concert for the Beresford Music Club in April, in addition to the Fall and Spring Choral Showcases and the Holiday Concert. Next year promises to be even more exciting with a Fall Tour to Minneapolis for recruitment and our Spring Europe Trip.

# Alumni News

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**Terry Crull**, (M.Mus. in Vocal, 1988). Fall of 2003 Terry Crull directed the sixty-voice Men's Glee Club at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado. This assignment was a sabbatical replacement for Dr. Garlin Darrough. Terry completed his doctoral studies in choral conducting as a student of Dr. Darrough and Dr. Howard Skinner. Dr. Terry Crull graduated May of 2004.

**Reva (Herther) Fredericksen**, (BFA, 1971). Reva has taken a position with Creighton University as an Occupation Therapist, serving the Macy and Winnebago Indian Reservations.

**Linda Hanson**, (B.S., 1998; M.A., 2002; M.D., anticipated 2006). Linda is currently a second year medical student at USDSM. Linda sang in the choir at USD for a while. She has not been involved in musical activities recently, but plans to take guitar lessons in the near future.

**Jason McFarland**, (B.M. Voice, 1996 and M.Mus. Voice, 1997). Jason McFarland is a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Theology and Religious Studies at the Catholic University of America. Jason was named a Teaching Fellow at CUA for the 2003-2004 academic year. He is preparing papers for presentation at the Mid-Atlantic meeting of the American Academy of Religion and the National meeting of the College Theology Society. In the summer of 2003 Jason planned the liturgies for the National Migration Conference sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Jason's dissertation proposal "Cantus ad introitum: The Entrance Song in Roman Catholic Worship," was recently approved by the STRS faculty. The choir of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, of which Jason is a member, released a Christmas CD in November of 2003.

**James Sorensen**, (BFA, 1954 and M.Mus in Music Education). James Sorensen taught in Milbank (high school band for two years) and was the Vermillion High School band director from 1959-1967. James received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois-Champaign Urbana, and afterwards worked at Elmhurst College. From 1978-1998 Dr. Sorensen was Dean and Professor of Music in the School of Music at the University of Puget Sound (Tacoma, WA). He held leadership positions in NASM (Board of Directors, Commission on Accreditation, and Visiting Evaluation Team member). James is now retired in living in Tacoma.

**Daniel Tsukamoto**, (M.Mus. in Piano Performance, 1995). Daniel currently lives in Michigan, works full-time at H&K Norwood as a customer service representative assisting McDonald's restaurants in the US and abroad. He is also a church organist at a United Methodist church. Daniel teaches piano lessons, ministers to local people as needed, and spends time with his wife, Sarah.

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## Voice Professor Participates in National Program

In mid-June, Professor Christopher Mitchell attended the 2004 National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Summer Intern Program held at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. Professor Mitchell was one of twelve collegiate voice teachers selected nationwide to participate in the program.

Each year, the NATS Foundation selects teachers for the opportunity to work with four master teachers in an intensive, 10-day training program. The 2004 master teachers were Robert McIver from Eastman School of Music, Clifton Ware from the University of Minnesota, Deborah Baxter from Wichita State University and Linda DiFiore from the University of North Texas. The other intern teachers were from California, Texas, New York, Alabama, Georgia, Ohio, Florida, and Nebraska.

Professor Mitchell worked closely with master teacher Linda DiFiore, performing on her master class, taking lessons, and teaching lessons under her observation. He also performed several songs on a program of New Music for Voice given by the interns and coordinated by Dr. Judith Carman, new music reviewer for the *Journal of Singing*. Lectures and masterclasses were given by each of the master teachers, and interns were given the opportunity to tour the National Center for Voice in Denver and attend a lecture by noted voice scientist, Dr. Ingo Titze.

To underscore the importance of this program, here is a quote from former NATS President Jean Westerman Gregg, "The Intern Program, as an investment in the future of the voice teaching profession, is considered by the Board of Directors, past and present, as one of the most important programs of the Association."



*Intern Marcia Porter of Florida State University, Christopher Mitchell, master teacher Dr. Linda Di Fiore of the University of North Texas, and intern Jennifer Mosher of Youngstown State University.*



*Christopher Mitchell demonstrating a phrase during a lesson with Colin Slade.*

# Faculty News

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Piano faculty member, **Susan Keith Gray** served as adjudicator for the 2004 Iowa Music Teachers Association Festival in Storm Lake, the Iowa state MTNA competitions, the South Dakota Region I Solo and Ensemble Festival, and for the Junior Music Festival in Vermillion. In cooperation with USD's 2003-04 Humanities emphasis on Scandinavia and the Americas, Gray organized and prepared students for a recital of Scandinavian piano music for the Warren M. Lee Main Gallery opening of *Siege Damer* with artists Grete Bodegaard and Eva Isaksen. As a pianist, Dr. Gray has collaborated in performances with Martha Counsell, professional flutist in Sioux City, IA, and with USD faculty members C. J. Kocher, Stephanie Kocher, John Thomson and Sue Ann Stutheit, and as a member of the Rawlins Piano Trio. With the Kobayashi/Gray Duo, Gray gave master classes and recitals in College Park and Annapolis, Maryland; Omaha, Nebraska; Oklahoma and West Virginia, and presented a lecture-recital at the Women and Creativity Conference at West Virginia University. Gray coached singers and pianists and presented a workshop on Vocal Collaboration at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia in March. In June, she accompanied four professional opera singers, Carla Connors, Erich Parce, Scott Piper and Emily Lodine, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Friends of Opera "Sounds of South Dakota" Vocal Showcase at the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls. Gray is currently president of the South Dakota Music Teachers Association and is presiding over the organization's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference in Sioux Falls on November 4-7, 2004. Gray's article entitled "Summertime Collaborations" is published in the June/July issue of the *American Music Teacher*, the official publication of the Music Teacher's National Association.

**Dr. Matthew Harden**, Assistant Professor of Music Education and Director of Choral Activities, was the Regional Honor Choirs Chair for the North Central American Choral Directors Conference held in Sioux Falls, March 3-6, 2004. Guest conducting appearances for the past year included a High School choir festival in Lake Andes, SD and a Junior High choir festival for the Maple Valley School District in Iowa. In addition, he was an adjudicator for large ensemble festivals in Regions 1, 3, and 5 for South Dakota. Dr. Harden also presented at various state ACDA conferences and hosted the vocal part of the USD Music Director's Institute giving sessions in conducting and rehearsal techniques. In addition to his work with the choirs at USD next year, he will conduct the North Dakota ACDA Collegiate Honor Choir held next January in Bismarck.

**Dr. Lawrence Mitchell** completed an exciting year as an adjudicator and guest conductor. In October, Dr. Mitchell served as a marching band adjudicator for a regional marching band contest in Washington, Missouri. In November Dr. Mitchell was one of five guest conductors with the Augustana College Band for their fall concert. In February he served as guest conductor for the All-City Ninth Grade Honor Band for the Rapid City Public Schools. He also served as an adjudicator for the Lincoln, Nebraska All-City High School Band Festival. In April, Dr. Mitchell returned to Lincoln to serve as an adjudicator and clinician for the Nebraska Bandmasters Band Festival.

**Dr. David V. Moskowitz** completed his third year as Assistant Professor of Music History at The University of South Dakota. Last year Dr. Moskowitz was appointed Coordinator of Graduate Music Studies. He plays a lead role in assisting faculty members and the department chair in recruiting and advising graduate students in music. For a second year Dr. Moskowitz served as co-organizer of the university-wide Graduate Research and Creative Activities Forum. This event gives graduate students an opportunity to present their research in a scholarly conference setting. Dr. Moskowitz presented the paper "Jamaican Song Lyrics as Multicultural Signifiers: Cultural Identity in Reggae" at the 2004 joint meeting of the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association and the national meeting of the Popular Culture Association of America in San Antonio, Texas in April. Additionally, Moskowitz signed a contract with Greenwood Publishers as sole author of *The Encyclopedia of Reggae and Caribbean Music*. Greenwood will publish this book spring of 2005 as part of their Greenwood Press 188 Reference Book Series. Spring 2004, Moskowitz was involved with several university committees, including a sub-committee of the President's writing task force. He also presented an invited guest lecture in the *Writing About the Arts* course and lectured in the Spring Colloquium in the History of Music, sponsored by The University of South Dakota Department of History.

**Dr. Susanne Skyrn** traveled to Spain in October, 2003 to present a paper at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Spanish Keyboard Music "Diego Fernandez (FIMTE)." Held in the town of Mojácar, on Spain's Costa del Sol, the conference focused on Anglo-Spanish relations in music, politics, and cultural events from the late Middle Ages to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Skyrn presented a paper titled "Scarlattian Influences in the Keyboard Music of Muzio Clementi." A paper that Skyrn presented at the 2001 FIMTE conference, "The 23 Keyboard Sonatas of Padre José Gallés: Towards a New Style," was recently published in *Claves y pianos españoles: Interpretación y repertorio hasta 1830*, which includes the proceedings of the 2000-2001 FIMTE conferences. During April 2004, Dr. Skyrn performed the three Beethoven sonatas of Opus 10 for the International Beethoven Festival at Central College in Pella, Iowa. She played the same Beethoven program in March at the University of Memphis in Memphis, Tennessee, and on the USD campus as a faculty recital. Also in April, Skyrn traveled with the Dakota Baroque and Classic Company period instrument ensemble to Rapid City, where she played fortepiano in a concert for the Black Hills Chamber Music Society series. Along with a busy teaching schedule throughout the academic year, Skyrn served as guest adjudicator for the Iowa Music Teachers Association in Storm Lake and for the Iowa MTA state piano auditions for junior high, high school, and collegiate artist divisions, held at Central College in Pella, Iowa. During the summer of 2004, she will be recording a new CD of early Romantic music on the National Music Museum's Viennese grand piano by Anton Martin Thym, built in 1815, and continuing research on the 19<sup>th</sup>-century keyboard music from the archives of the Spanish convent, San Pedro de las Dueñas.

## Faculty News (cont.)

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Dr. John Thomson's research program followed a new path this year. He made a study of an instrument invented in the 19th Century by the German maker, Dr. Albert Stelzner, known as the "violotta." This instrument is tuned one octave below a violin and fills a gap between the viola and cello in the string family. The tone is something quite new and exciting. Thomson performed using the instrument at concerts in Wyoming, Colorado, and at the American Musicological Society convention in Houston, TX. A recording also was made for National Public Radio. Another new venture was his appearance as the on-stage violinist in the Black Hills Theatre production of "New World Opera" by Stephanie Lien. Thomson enjoyed performing in this magnificent combination of music, dance, and multi-culturalism. With pianist Dr. Susan Keith Gray, Thomson presented a recital as part of the College of Fine Arts' Scandinavia and the Americas Festival. The duo performed Norwegian music by Bull, Grieg, and Eftestol. Dr. Gray met Eftestol in Norway, and the performance of his pieces was the USA premiere. Thomson also played some folk dances on the Hardanger Fiddle, which is the national instrument of Norway. This was followed by Dr. Gray performing Grieg's transcriptions of these pieces for piano. Thomson was able to share his performances using the Hardanger Fiddle in several school visits from the Twin Cities to the Council Bluffs/Omaha region, and throughout South Dakota. None of the students in these schools had previously seen this instrument. To complete the year, Thomson attended the International Viola Congress at the University of Minnesota in June. He conducted several performances during the year. Some highlights were a tour to Florida, a concert at the Great Hall of the Washington Pavilion, and seeing the students in the orchestra grow in maturity and technical skill.

Dr. Stephen Yarbrough was recently a guest at the home of Stephen Paulus, internationally acclaimed American composer. Dr. Yarbrough shared his *Alleluias for Orchestra* with Mr. Paulus, who was much impressed by the work's melodic content, form, and orchestration. Mr. Paulus shared sketches of his new *Concerto for Two Trumpets and Orchestra* (premiered last November by the Minnesota Orchestra, with soloists Manny Laurano and Doc Severinsen). The two composers shared notes on the nature of the compositional process, and Mr. Paulus gave Dr. Yarbrough a demonstration of how he sketches new works at the piano. Mr. Paulus discussed the business aspects of being a composer with Dr. Yarbrough, and gave him a guided tour of his own business, Paulus Publications. Dr. Yarbrough recently attended the world premiere of his *Prairie Triptych - Three Scenes of Harvey Dunn*, by the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra on a March 13 concert at the Great Hall in the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Sciences in Sioux Falls. The work was conducted by Jung-Ho Pak, former conductor of the San Diego Symphony, and present conductor of the Disney Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra and the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. Slides of the Dunn paintings, courtesy of the South Dakota Art Museum, were projected behind the orchestra as the work was being played. Dr. Yarbrough was recently awarded a \$10,000.00 commission from the National Symphony Orchestra in conjunction with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. He will write a fifteen minute work for the NSO Chamber Players. The work will be premiered at the Kennedy Center during the 2005-2006 concert season. The award is the American Residency Composer Commission, and was given in conjunction with the NSO's residency in South Dakota in 2002. Another recent commission was a \$1,000.00 award from the Vermillion UCC church to write an anthem for the celebration of USD Emeritus professor Jack Noble's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary as organist at the church. The work will be premiered in October of this year at the UCC church in Vermillion.



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## USD Symphonic Band

Dr. Lawrence Mitchell and The University of South Dakota Symphonic Band had a busy, productive academic year. The USD Symphonic Band performed on-campus concerts beginning with the Annual Holiday Concert in December. The spring semester began with the annual USD High School Honor Band festival on January 25, 2004. Mr. Kim Cosens, former band director from Waseca, Minnesota, was the guest director for the Honor Symphonic Band. The winter band concert scheduled for February sixth was snowed out, so the band departed for a four day tour into Minnesota without performing a home concert. The first day of the tour found the band performing in Pipestone and Luverne, Minnesota, and at Okoboji, Iowa. The band traveled in a blizzard to Clear Lake, Iowa where they stayed the night. On Thursday the band performed in Clear Lake, Iowa and Wells, Minnesota in route to Minneapolis where they collaborated with the USD Foundation to host a USD Alumni reception. Friday morning the band performed at Champlin Park High School, traveled to the Mall of America, and later journeyed to Brookings, South Dakota for the evening. On Saturday morning, the USD Symphonic Band performed at the annual South Dakota Music Education In-Service Conference.

The band performed a Spring concert on April 18<sup>th</sup> which featured junior horn soloist, Adam Nelson of Vermillion. The USD Symphonic Band's final performance of the year was at the Annual Spring Fling and featured graduate trombone student Andy Converse and graduate trumpet student Jason U'Ren in a duet performance of *Cousins* by Herbert L. Clarke. The Symphonic Band also performed *Strains From Erin*, an Irish tribute for Dean John Day who stepped down as Dean of the College of Fine Arts July 1, 2004.

# Department of Music Alumni Information Form

**Please send us information about your current activities.** Due to printing deadlines, all such material must be received by January 20, 2005 for the next issue.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Maiden

Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Major Field \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Personal News and Musical Activities (This info will be used for publication; please be specific but brief)

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Send to: Information Coordinator  
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USD - College of Fine Arts  
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For Fall 2005 Upbeat

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## String Students Achieve Success



Teachers always enjoy seeing the success of their students. Dr. Thomson visited Michelle Schettler, recent music education graduate from the U, at her new teaching position at Monticello High School. Dr. Thomson met with Ms. Schettler's string students and listened to them perform. Later Michelle and Dr. Thomson took time to play some duos for the students.



Daniel G. Guyette  
Dean, College of Fine Arts  
Dr. Larry Schou  
Chair, Dept. of Music  
Information Coordinator  
Dr. Darlene Fett  
Editor

This past summer Kelsey Higbee, music performance major, placed second in the Young Performer's Competition held in Meier Hall at Black Hills State University. Sixteen string players competed in two age categories. Kelsey took second place in the fifteen-to-twenty-year-old age group. She was awarded the \$100 Wells Fargo prize for her performance of the "Roumanian Folk Dances" by Bela Bartok.

