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Summer 2002 Directors Institute



## The Department of Music Receives \$64,000 Donation for Scholarships

This past spring a generous benefactor, Elizabeth Kathryn Ames, left a portion of her estate to the Department of Music. In her will Ms. Ames bequeathed \$64,000 to the Department of Music for music scholarships. She also bequeathed a large three-manual electronic organ, over 100 CDs, 150 records, some sheet music and a beginner's flute. The recordings will be given to South Dakota Public Broadcasting for inclusion into their current holdings and use on the radio—a fine testament to Ms. Ames' desire to hear music by the great composers.

The USD Foundation has set-up a scholarship fund in Ms. Ames' name. Interest from the fund will be used for general music scholarships. Each year the department is allowed to spend a portion of the interest that is generated from a fund. This new scholarship fund will allow us to offer three or four \$1000 scholarships per year.

## Vermillion Resident Donates Steinway Piano to the Department of Music

Gil French of Vermillion, SD donated his 1950 6-foot Steinway piano to the Department of Music in August of 2001. Mr. French donated the instrument in memory of his wife. Piano technician, Tim Coates, has evaluated the piano and believes it to be in fine playing condition. It currently is being used by the choirs, and will be used in concert by the Rawlins Piano Trio this coming year.

Dr. Larry Schou, Chair of the Department of Music, is quoted in a letter to Mr. French as saying, "It is always heartwarming when an instrument of this kind can continue to bring great musical joy to the player and the listener. A fine piano rarely has an ending point. This piano will continue to make music for a long time, thanks in part to your generosity."

On behalf of the Department of Music and its students, we thank Mr. French and his family for their generosity.

# *Greetings from the U!*

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Greetings to all USD Friends of Music. The Department of Music is a very busy place. Faculty travel far and wide to bring USD music making to the world. The USD Marching Coyotes toured Monaco this past January, and the USD Chambers Singers are planning to sing at Carnegie Hall and in Washington, D.C. this coming June. During the academic year, most of the department ensembles are involved in touring which takes them to various areas of the quad-state region.

Friends of the department continue to be generous. This past year, along with continuing annual donations to our scholarship funds, we established a new scholarship fund—the Elizabeth Kathryn Ames Music Scholarship. We also received special gift donations that include: a Steinway piano, an electric organ, a flute, and audio recordings.

Our many festivals, concerts, competitions, and clinics bring thousands of students and parents to campus. We are proud of all that we do to assist the university in its recruiting efforts. The department is a vital element in bringing people to Vermillion and USD. Our summer offerings involve Drum and Flag Camp, the Band and Choir Director Institute, and the Upper-Midwest Music Camp. Each of these events develops a core constituency for USD that centers on music. Whether it is the budding high school musician or the advanced public school teacher, we are there to assist in passing on knowledge gained from years of experience and research.

In the past year I have had numerous opportunities to meet with alumni and prospective students and their parents. I am always struck by the excitement I see in their faces when they hear about our music program. The faculty and students in the department are setting new standards for music in South Dakota.

At the May 2002 closing concert of the season, we were pleased to welcome Gary Begeman to a performance by students who received the Begeman/Griffith scholarship award. This closing concert has turned into a showcase of all things excellent in the department—choirs singing and instruments playing. The USD Department of Music is at all times an active and vibrant place for music making and music study. If you know of a budding musician looking for a college, remind them about The University of South Dakota Department of Music. We offer a quality education from an experienced and knowledgeable faculty!

It is my great pleasure to announce the appointment of Christopher Mitchell as a new faculty member to the Department of Music following the retirement of Dr. Frank Aiello this past May. After an extensive national search, Mr. Mitchell was the unanimous choice of the faculty search committee. Mr. Mitchell will be an Assistant Professor of Music (studio voice, opera workshop, and solo vocal literature and technique). Mr. Mitchell's operatic credits include roles in *The Rake's Progress* and *Die Fledermaus*. His areas of research interest are British and American art song, as well as German Lieder.

This coming October 12, 2002 we will be honoring two outstanding professor emeriti: Professor Larry Torkelson and Professor Frank Aiello. We have established a new scholarship fund in their honor through the USD Foundation. At D-Days on October 12, there will be a free picnic for current and former vocal/choral music majors, minors and participants and their families. You should be receiving a letter in the mail. If not, please contact the Music Office for details. The picnic begins at 5 pm by Slagle Hall, followed by a 6:30 pm choral rehearsal for alums under the baton of Professor Emeritus Larry Torkelson. This day concludes with a public concert at 7:30 pm. We hope to have as many people as possible attend this event to say thanks to these two great musicians for all that they did for the department and its students over the past three decades. Please mark your calendar for October 12, 2002 to be a part of this celebration of friendship.



Chair, Department of Music

## Staff News

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In August, 2001, veteran Music Department Office Manager, **Linda Richardson**, left her music position and accepted a new challenge with the USD Foundation. Her legacy is reflected through the people she served in her many capacities over the years.

In April of 1984 Linda started a tradition of service to students, faculty and co-workers that will be missed. "Always a breath of fresh air," Rolf Olson remembers. "What can I say?" asked Larry Mitchell: "Loved the kids. Jack-of-all-trades. Administrative Assistant. Mom."

"Having no musical talents myself," Linda reflects, "I am always overwhelmed with the multiple talents possessed by our music students and faculty. Your complete dedication to your musical profession has been a great and lasting inspiration to me. I have thoroughly enjoyed attending the many recitals and concerts performed by high school student participants at our festivals and camps, USD students and faculty alike, and I look forward to future performances."

Linda continues to reside in Vermillion with her husband, Jim, and their son, Matt, a USD Contemporary Media and Journalism major. She and Jim enjoy traveling to visit Brad and Kristin (son and daughter-in-law in Ft. Collins, CO) and Nicole and Ronny (daughter and son-in-law in Santa Maria, CA).

Linda joined the USD Foundation staff as an Administrative Assistant and works closely with the Vice President for Development, the Foundation's President, and other Fundraising Officers. Her first year has been one of adjustment and learning new skills involving the current "Campaign South Dakota." Last November Linda attended a *Raiser's Edge* training session at Blackbaud University in Charleston, SC. *Raiser's Edge* is one of the most comprehensive and popular fundraising management systems available today. The Alumni and Foundation offices collaborate to maintain USD alumni and donor records—no small task, considering the system contains approximately 85,000 constituents, half of which are USD alumni. According to Linda, one of the biggest ongoing challenges is alumni address changes. She encourages all USD alums, and particularly the music alumni, to keep the Alumni Office informed of their whereabouts. "Let us know how you're doing and where you currently reside!" she says.



In August, 2001, **Laurie Brown** moved from the secretarial position in USD's Art Department to the office position in the Music Department. "I was surprised at the great differences in departments just a few feet away from each other. It was a challenging year, getting to know new faculty, new students, new routines."

Laurie earned her BA in Theatre from Yankton College in 1984. Since then she worked in the Yankton area in such capacities as legal secretary, office manager for the Lewis & Clark Playhouse, and psych aide at the Mickelson Center for the Neurosciences, until accepting the Art position in August of 1997. She's been active in area music and theatre, and is grateful for opportunities to sing with USD choirs over the past five years. Her son, Ian, is a junior at Yankton Senior High.

Laurie finds great joy in the active atmosphere of the Music Department. "There's always something happening somewhere!" She looks forward to new challenges in the coming year.

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## Pi Kappa Lambda Inducts New Members



Pictured for 2001: (L to R) Dr. Skyrn, chapter president; Ryan Schuknecht, Justin Randall, and Brian Mann; and Dr. Sue Ann Stutheit, faculty inductee.



Pictured for 2002: (L to R) Dr. Susanne Skyrn, chapter president; Brad Hanson and Abby Erickson; and Dr. Larry Schou, Chair of the Department of Music

Pi Kappa Lambda is the national honor society for music. Members are selected by the faculty based on a student's scholarly achievements and represent the top 20% of those music majors who graduate within the calendar year. Since *Theta Upsilon's* establishment on The University of South Dakota campus in 1999, eighteen students have been selected for this honor. Faculty may also be invited into membership.

At the end of each academic year, the *Theta Upsilon* chapter of *Pi Kappa Lambda* holds its annual member induction ceremony. The ceremony is conducted by Dr. Susanne Skyrn, president of the chapter and Dr. Larry Schou, Chair of the Department of Music. Each inductee is presented with a certificate of membership and a pin.

## Music Student Receives National MENC Award



This past spring music education major, **Suzanne Dobney**, was awarded an MENC Collegiate Professional Achievement Award for her contributions to USD's Collegiate MENC Chapter. This award recognizes collegiate members for their commitment and dedi-

cation to MENC and music education. During her college career, Suzanne held the offices of Vice-President and President of Chapter 343. She was Chair of USD's third annual Collegiate MENC Day in 2000. In this capacity, she was responsible for organizing and scheduling the sessions, as well as securing clinicians for the day's events. Suzanne currently teaches middle and high school choral music at Woodbury Central Public School in Merville, Iowa.

## University Choir and Percussion Ensemble Perform Caribbean Mass

The USD University Choir, under the direction of Dr. Sue Ann Stutheit, and the USD Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Sarah Smith Waters, presented several performances of Glenn McClure's composition "St. Francis in the Americas: A Caribbean Mass." The composer visited the USD campus, giving masterclasses and lectures to music students. He also attended rehearsals and the USD performance of his work April 19 in Slagle Auditorium. The Mass also was presented at First Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls on April 21. The work is for soloists, acappella choir, steel drum ensemble and auxiliary percussion. The Mass has been featured at several national and international choral festivals.

## Alumni News

**Peter Carlson**, B.Mus (Music Education) 1996 and M.Mus. (Performance) 2000, is the instrumental director at Sibley-Ocheyedan High School in Sibley, Iowa. Peter directs the Marching Generals, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, Basketball Pep Band, and numerous small ensembles. He also maintains a private piano studio. His piano students perform in several recitals and contests throughout the year.

## International Violinist Performs at USD

A once-in-a-lifetime event took place on April 6, 2002 when USD and the National Music Museum presented a gala concert to a packed auditorium in Slagle Hall. World renowned violinist Eugene Fodor performed on four great Cremonese instruments by Antonio Stradivari and Giuseppe Guarneri. In these days when fine violins are realizing extraordinary prices, this concert provided a fascinating chance to compare these great examples of the two most famous luthiers in history. One of the Stradivari violins was the celebrated "Harrison" of 1693 that is part of the collection in the National Music Museum located on the USD campus. Geoffrey Fushi of Bein and Fushi refers to the "Harrison" as "most probably the greatest concert violin made before the year 1700."



Eugene Fodor performed a dazzling program of works by Vitali, Bach, Paganini, Massenet, and Vivaldi. He was accompanied by an orchestra made up of USD students and faculty, area musicians including the South Dakota String Quartet, members of the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra, and Eugene Fodor's wife, Sally, who as a student was a classmate of John Thomson at the University of Auckland. The second half of the concert featured Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" with Fodor using a different violin for each concerto.

Besides the "Harrison," a Stradivari and Guarneri were provided by Dr. William Sloan from Los Angeles, and Mr. Fodor brought his own Guarneri.

## Collegiate MENC News

Members of USD's Collegiate Chapter 343 of MENC: The Music Educators National Conference held their fourth annual Collegiate MENC Day on October 22, 2001. The theme for the day-long mini-conference was "Music: Pass It On!" Chapter President Trudy Jelsma welcomed members and guests and introduced the chapter officers, as well as the Co-chairs for the event, Eve Welch and Kim Jonason. During the day, students attended sessions on a variety of topics presented by guest clinicians. These included "Career Opportunities in Music;" "Madrigal Dinners: Organization and Presentation;" "Music Teaching: Those First Years;" and "Building a Successful Band Program." During the noon hour, students were treated to a "Madrigal Luncheon" and concert performance by the Sioux City, IA North High School Madrigal Singers, under the direction of USD alum Rex Towns. Following the performance, students toured the Shrine to Music Museum (now the National Music Museum). Chapter members are already making plans for the fifth annual Collegiate MENC Day to be held on October 21, 2002.

Also during the school year, the chapter members co-hosted the annual fall Music Department picnic, sold shirts and buttons for the Quad State Field Marching Competition, carried out their Holiday Door Decoration fundraiser in the Music Department, and sold concessions for the Coyote Jazz Festival.

## *Piano Faculty Member Conducts Research in Spain During Sabbatical*

Flamenco, tapas, art museums, castles, the Alhambra, and more...Dr. Susanne Skyrn, of the USD keyboard faculty, experienced it all during sabbatical leave in the spring of 2001. Skyrn spent six weeks traveling in Spain and Portugal doing research in libraries and archives and seeing the sights.

"Spanish keyboard music, particularly the music of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, has long been a special interest of mine," Skyrn said. "I didn't have one particular composer in mind to research while in Spain. I just wanted to see everything that was available." She prepared for the trip by contacting the major Spanish libraries before leaving the United States and making sure that she would be able to access their collections. "Spanish libraries have been somewhat closed to foreign researchers in the past, and I wanted to be sure that they would let me look at the rare manuscripts and historical artifacts before I went," she said.

Once she arrived in Spain, Skyrn spent the first 10 days in Madrid, looking through 18<sup>th</sup> century manuscripts and editions in the Rare Book Room of the *Biblioteca Nacional*. Then she went to Barcelona for another 10 days and examined manuscripts at the *Biblioteca de Catalunya*. "Most everything of interest regarding 18<sup>th</sup> century keyboard music in the Madrid library has already been written about and published in modern edition," she said, "but there are many manuscripts in the *Biblioteca de Catalunya* that haven't received much attention yet. I was able to make photocopies of the documents and bring them home for further study."

From Barcelona Skyrn traveled to the Basque country and spent two days in a private archive of music of Basque composers dating from medieval times to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. "There was an incredible musical community centered around the monastery of Aranzazu and the city of San Sebastian in the 18<sup>th</sup> century," Skyrn said. "The monks were fine musicians and in demand all over northern Spain and southern France for their talents. There were some very gifted composers among them. They have left us some interesting keyboard pieces. Who knows how many other undiscovered treasures lie in this archive, which consists of three floors of a building jammed with cardboard boxes full of manuscripts and printed music. The archivists just don't have time to go through it all."

Skyrn finished her work back in Madrid where she looked at manuscripts from the music library of the Madrid Conservatory. In between library sessions, she traveled to the Andalusian cities of Seville, Granada, and Cordoba, and then to Lisbon and other points in Portugal. One outcome of her research was a paper that she was invited to present at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Spanish Keyboard Music in Mojacar, Spain, in October 2001. Entitled "The 23 Keyboard Sonatas of Jose Galles: Towards a New Style," the paper is being published in the Proceedings of the Symposium. Skyrn plans to publish an anthology of 18<sup>th</sup> century Spanish keyboard music, incorporating the best of the works she collected in Spain. She returned to northern Spain in August 2002 to continue with research.



## Department Chair Receives Sasakawa Fellowship



Dr. Larry Schou, Chair of the Department of Music and Professor of Organ and Harpsichord, received a 2002 Sasakawa Fellowship for the study of Japanese culture. Dr. Schou was one of twenty-four faculty members from around the United

States chosen to attend the 2002 Japanese Summer Institute held at San Diego State University this past June. The fellowships and institute are made possible by an endowment from the Nippon Foundation, and are sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. This National Faculty Development Institute, "Incorporating Japanese Studies Into The Undergraduate Curriculum," involved daily lectures and presentations by scholars of Japanese culture.

Schou's participation in the institute involved four weeks of intensive seminars, lectures, readings, discussion groups, and cultural activities related to Japanese history, culture, literature, government, business, language, and education. Institute faculty included scholars, representatives from the local Japanese business community, artists, journalists, and government officials. Featured presenters were: Jonathan Lippman of Mount Holyoke College, and Chalmers Johnson. Dr. Lippman is a noted scholar of Japanese history. Mr. Johnson, a nationally renowned expert on east Asian culture and politics, has spoken to numerous U.S. government agencies over the past several decades and authored many nationally acclaimed books. During the Institute, Director Michael Weiner invited Mr. IWASAKI, the Japanese Cultural Attaché from Los Angeles, to speak to the group of faculty. Mr. IWASAKI Atushi also attended the tea ceremony and the faculty program held at the conclusion of the institute.

## USD Chamber Singers to Perform at Carnegie Hall

The University of South Dakota Chamber Singers have been invited to join in a performance of Faure's *Requiem* at Carnegie Hall on Sunday, June 8, 2003. The USD Chamber Singers will join with five other outstanding ensembles selected from throughout North America for a five day/four night residency from June 5-9, 2003, culminating in a performance in Carnegie Hall accompanied by the New England Symphonic Ensemble. The conductor for the concert is Bruce Browne, Music Director of the professional choir *Choral Cross-Ties* and recently retired Music Director of the Portland Symphonic Choir. The event is sponsored by MidAmerica Productions, Inc. In addition to the Carnegie Hall performance, the Chamber Singers will also be giving an individual concert at one of the Manhattan churches, details of which will be sent out at a later date. The choir plans to give additional concerts in the Washington D.C. area. Information will be sent out to Alumni living in the New York and Washington D.C. areas, and we look forward to meeting with many of you at our concerts.

It is possible for USD Alumni to accompany the choir on this trip. The price of the trip will include airfare, housing, and a ticket to the Carnegie Hall concert. If you would be interested in accompanying the Chamber Singers on their trip or sponsoring one of the singers, please contact Dr. Matthew Harden, either by e-mail: ([mharden@usd.edu](mailto:mharden@usd.edu)) or by phone: (605)677-5721.

## Saxophone Professor and Flute Professor Premiere New Composition

Christopher J. Kocher, assistant professor of saxophone and jazz studies at The University of South Dakota, recently premiered a new work by Pulitzer Prize-nominated composer, William Schmidt. *Partita a Tre*, for saxophone trio, was performed by Kocher on alto saxophone, Farrell Vernon of Southeastern Louisiana University on tenor saxophone, and Nick Frazee of Greeley, Colorado, on baritone saxophone, at the 2002 North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference held at the University of North Texas, March 6-9. Composer Schmidt attended a spring 2001 recital on the USD campus given by Kocher. The performance featured the premier of a new composition, *Prelude, Fugue, & Postlude*, written for Kocher and his wife, flutist Stephanie Kocher, adjunct instructor of flute at USD. The saxophone music of William Schmidt is the topic of C.J. Kocher's doctoral dissertation.



Left to Right: C. J. Kocher, Schmidt's wife, pianist & composer Sharon Davis, Stephanie Kocher, and William Schmidt at March 17, 2001 recital at USD's Colton Recital Hall.

## Rawlins Piano Trio Performs for Area Schools

The Rawlins Piano Trio had a busy season. One of the highlights included an October concert on the Yankton Concert Association series, followed up later in the year with visits to fifteen schools in South Dakota and Nebraska. These performances were arranged by the Yankton Concert Association. The Trio performed for approximately five thousand students and shared their love of classical music with their young audiences. For the Yankton concert, the Trio performed a program featuring music by Czech composers, including the composer Friml who settled in America. Dr. Rogstad, the cellist of the Rawlins Piano Trio and a noted authority on American music, researched Friml's background and made several interesting discoveries about his background. These were included in the program notes.

The Trio gave two performances of the wonderful Triple Concerto by Beethoven. One was with the USD Community Orchestra, and the other with the 2001 String Orchestra Festival which was arranged by Mr. David Elder and the Yankton School District. Students from Yankton, Sioux City, Sioux Falls, and Vermillion attended the festival which culminated in an evening concert.

Throughout the 2001-2002 year, the USD College of Fine Arts celebrated Ireland and the Americas as a theme. In February the Rawlins Piano Trio performed a diverse program inspired by this theme. The Irish composer Sir Charles Villiers Stanford's *Second Trio* was featured along with Frank Martin's *Irish Trio*, Henry Cowell's *The Banshee*, and some Irish folksongs arranged for voice & trio by Beethoven. For the Beethoven pieces, the Rawlins Piano Trio was joined by Dr. Matthew Harden, Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Voice at USD.

The trio spent the summer of 2002 editing its latest CD of American music. The CD features some wonderful but previously unrecorded works by Foerster, Wilson, and Huss, and is expected to be released before the end of 2002.

For more information about the Rawlins Piano Trio, please email: [jathomso@usd.edu](mailto:jathomso@usd.edu)

# Faculty News

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**Dr. Darlene Fett**, Associate Professor of Music Education, was an adjudicator for the Mitchell, SD and Johnston, IA Invitational Show Choir competitions during the spring 2002 semester. Guest presentations during the past year included the keynote address for USD's South Dakota Collegiate MENC Day; "Careers in Music" for the USD Music Majors; and "Teaching the Adolescent Female Voice" for the USD Music Director's Institute. Dr. Fett currently is President of the South Dakota Music Educators Association and a Board Member of the North Central Regional Division of MENC: The National Association for Music Education. During the summer, she was involved with advising and registering new students as a part of USD's *Fast Track* program for incoming freshmen.

Pianist **Susan Keith Gray** performed as a member of the University of South Dakota Rawlins Piano Trio in a series of regional public school concerts as well as in formal concerts in Yankton and in Vermillion. Summer projects included the editing of the Trio's recording for its third compact disc. In other concerts at USD throughout the year, Gray performed in collaboration with visiting alumnae and soprano, Carla Connors and with faculty members, Sue Ann Stutheit, soprano and Christopher and Stephanie Kocher, saxophone and flute. During the summer, Gray served as workshop pianist for the Michael Thompson Horn Masterclass Course for advanced and professional players in Sioux City, IA. As a member of the Kobayashi/Gray Duo, Gray played concerts in Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, West Virginia and in Arizona. The Duo performed at the annual College Music Society conference in Santa Fe and, during the summer, participated in the 2002 International Workshops Festival in Stavanger, Norway. Their recent compact disc, *Boldly Expressive! Music of Women* received word of airplay on public radio station coverage areas in Wisconsin, Atlanta, Alabama, Georgia, and Pittsburgh, PA as well as in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. As an adjudicator, Gray participated in piano festivals in Storm Lake and Sioux City, IA and the South Dakota Symphony Young Artist competition in Sioux Falls. For the past two years, Gray has served as President-elect and Competition Chair of South Dakota Music Teachers Association and will begin a two-year term as President of that organization for 2003-04.

In May of 2002, **Dr. David Moskowitz** was hired as the full-time tenure track Musicologist for the Department of Music. Moskowitz has been on campus this academic year on a term contract. In the fall of 2001, Moskowitz presented the paper "Iron, Lion, Zion: Biblical Quotations in Bob Marley's Lyrics" at the National Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology held at the University of Michigan. In the spring of 2002, Moskowitz chaired a session of the College Music Society, Great Plains Chapter Meeting held at Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska.

**Dr. Larry Schou**, Chair of the USD Department of Music and Professor of Organ and Harpsichord, gave an organ concert in January at Morningside College in Sioux City, with the resident trumpet professor. In February Schou performed the Hadyn Violin and Harpsichord Concerto with the Rapid City Stevens High School Orchestra and gave a duo concert with violin professor, Dr. John Thomson. In April, Dr. Schou played continuo for the Vivaldi *Four Seasons* concert that featured the world-renowned violinist, Eugene Fodor. This concert took place on the USD campus. Dr. Schou attended the National Council meeting of the American Guild of Organists in New York in April. Dr. Schou was an elected official of the National Council 1996-2002. At the 2002 National Convention of the AGO this past July, Dr. Schou was presented with a certificate to acknowledge his six years of service on the National Council. Dr. Schou was awarded a Sasakawa Fellowship to study Japanese culture this past summer.

**Dr. Susanne Skyrn** presented a faculty piano recital in February, 2002. The program consisted of 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Spanish keyboard works. Skyrn presented the same program in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Sioux City, Iowa. In March Skyrn presented a faculty recital with violinist John Thomson at America's Shrine to Music Museum, using the Museum's replica Stein fortepiano. In April she traveled to Idaho for concerts in collaboration with Swiss-American soprano Velma Guyer Blaser.

**Dr. Sue Ann Stutheit**, Assistant Professor of music (Voice and Choral), recently presented two vocal recitals. In Colton Recital Hall, April 2, the soprano featured songs of Brahms, Duparc, Satie, Mascagni and American composers, as well as Spirituals. Dr. Susan Keith Gray accompanied the recital, and also appeared again with Dr. Stutheit in Kansas City at Atonement Lutheran Church on August 18. The USD Vocal Jazz Ensemble, under Dr. Stutheit's direction, has been invited to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City for the seventh annual Phil Mattson Vocal Jazz Festival.

**Dr. John Thomson** maintained a busy schedule throughout the year. Several of his violin and viola students won awards in competitions and secured professional positions, and he took part in several exciting performances. One of these featured the world premiere of Stephen Yarbrough's new piece "A Joyful Noise" for violin and harpsichord. Thomson performed this piece together with Dr. Larry Schou in Vermillion and Rapid City. The duo has researched and performed music for violin and harpsichord from the usual repertoire of the baroque period, along with early classical works, and what is always most unusual, less known pieces from the twentieth century. They have worked with composers to encourage the creation of new works for the combination. Thomson and Schou also performed Haydn's Concerto in F Major for Violin, Harpsichord, and String Orchestra with the USD Chamber Orchestra, and later with the Stevens High School Orchestra in Rapid City under the direction of Mr. Bill Evans.

Thomson's summer celebrated Bach in more ways than one. He performed Bach's Concerto for Two Violins, and the Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 for Two Violas with an orchestra in Cherokee, IA. In June, he attended a workshop with Stanley Ritchie at Indiana University concerning the unaccompanied works of Bach. Thomson and Dr. Mario Chiarello conducted workshops at Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls. The high school students met once a week to get an early start on the 2002 SD All-State audition repertoire. In August, Thomson returned to the Back Hills String Retreat, where he conducted the Chamber Orchestra, taught some violin

## Faculty News (con't)

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classes, and as a violinist took part in some performances. This is something Thomson enjoys very much. He comments that these students are wonderfully inspiring: "Good players, good musicians, and good kids." Next year, Thomson adds another string to his bow. He has been appointed the new conductor of the Sioux Empire Youth Orchestra in Sioux Falls, and he looks forward to making music with the young musicians of the region.

**Dr. Stephen Yarbrough** has had a very busy year as newly named Composer in Residence at USD. In March of 2001 the South Dakota Symphony premiered his orchestral suite *The Plains – Portraits of a Landscape*. Each of the three movements of the work was based on a painting or photograph of a high plains landscape done by an artist living in the region. In June of 2001 Dr. Yarbrough was awarded his sixth ASCAP Plus cash award for performances of his work in the 2000 – 2001 concert season. In August, his *With the Voice of Joy and Praise* was performed in two concerts by the Minnesota All-State Orchestra under the direction of Dr. William LaRue Jones. In December 2001, his *Alleluias for Orchestra* was performed on three Christmas concerts presented by the National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Henry Charles Smith at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. The *Alleluias for Orchestra* were also performed on three Christmas concerts given by the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra under the direction of Richard Giangiulio. Dr. Yarbrough's *While Shepherds Watched* was premiered on the USD Music Department Christmas Concert by Dr. Matthew Harden and the USD Chamber Singers. In February 2002 the South Dakota Symphony premiered *Inaugural Fanfare*, a work dedicated to the Symphony's new conductor, Maestro Susan Haig. That same month USD music faculty members Dr. John Thomson and Dr. Larry Schou presented the world premiere of *A Joyful Noise*, a commissioned work for violin and harpsichord. On March 15 maestro Henry Charles Smith conducted a performance of *Alleluias for Orchestra* with the St. Olaf College Orchestra. On March 16, Dr. William LaRue Jones conducted a performance of *With the Voice of Joy and Praise* with the Tennessee All State Orchestra in Nashville, Tennessee. In April Dr. William LaRue Jones conducted yet another performance of *With the Voice of Joy and Praise*, this time with the Arizona All-State Orchestra. Also in April, Dr. Rolf Olson conducted several performances of *Prairie Spring* on a tour with the USD Brass Choir. On May 7, the Vermillion High School Choir, under the direction of Kristin Iverson, premiered *The Road Not Taken*. This work, for SATB choir with piano, was commissioned by the Vermillion Music Boosters to celebrate the opening of the new Vermillion High School Performing Arts Center. Upcoming events include a performance of the *Alleluias for Orchestra* by the South Dakota All-State Orchestra, a September performance of the *Alleluias for Orchestra* by the Minnesota Orchestra directed by Henry Charles Smith, and the premiere performance of *JoyDance* with Dr. Larry Mitchell and the USD Symphonic Band.

In November, percussion professor, **Dr. Sarah S. Waters** participated in the annual Percussive Arts International Convention held in Nashville, Tennessee. She went as the representative president of the South Dakota Chapter of the Percussive Arts Society. Following the convention, she flew to Georgetown, Guyana, South America. There she met with and interviewed a pioneer in the steel band movement of Guyana, Roy Geddes. Her interview with Mr. Geddes will be published in August, 2003 by Percussive Notes. This trip spawned another project that is being researched: comparison of the lives and careers of two Guyanese steel drum men: one who stayed in Guyana, Roy Geddes, and one who left to make his career in the United States, Phil Solomon.

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## South Dakota Music Teachers Association Holds State Convention at USD

On November 2-4, 2001, the South Dakota Music Teachers Association held their annual State Convention in Vermillion on the campus of The University of South Dakota. Elementary, junior high, high school and college music students from around the



Anne Schein

state came to campus to audition in the SDMTA and MTNA competitions in brass, strings, woodwinds, voice, and keyboard. This year's convention featured two guest artists. Concert pianist Ann Schein appeared courtesy of the USD Keyboard Division's Rawlins Visiting Artist Recital and Master Class series. This series presents an internationally-known concert pianist at USD every fall for a recital and master class.

Ms. Schein, a faculty member of the prestigious Peabody Conservatory, gave a recital featuring works by Beethoven and Chopin on Friday evening. She gave a master

class on Saturday with USD piano students and SDMTA competition winners. On Sunday morning Ms. Schein presented a workshop entitled "The Benefits of Enlightened Practicing" for convention goers and USD students.

The second convention artist was USD alumna Carla Connors, who presented a vocal recital on Saturday evening.

She was accompanied by USD piano faculty member Susan Keith Gray. Ms. Connors, who has appeared in opera productions and recitals throughout the United States, also presented a vocal master class on Friday afternoon.



Carla Connors

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## Dakota's Finest USD Marching Coyotes Perform During European Tour

This past December 2001 and January 2002, a smaller version of the USD Marching Coyotes represented USD, South Dakota, and the United States in Cannes on New Year's Eve and Monaco on New Year's Day. The band left Omaha early on the morning of December 27 and then flew to Chicago and Washington D.C. From there they flew overseas to Milan, Italy. Most of that day was spent sightseeing in Milan. Late in the day the group boarded a bus to Lugano, Switzerland, where the band spent the next two nights. Bus driver, Piet, and Tour Coordinator, Yann, were superb at their jobs, young and enthusiastic, treated us with much respect, and were a big reason the trip went so smoothly. In Lugano there was much free time for everyone to explore the city and mingle with the locals. There are many great stories to tell—one group of students even met a teacher there who was originally from Yankton, SD!



The next day the band traveled to Cannes, France, our home base from December 30 to January 2. They did a lot of sightseeing in the region of the French Riviera and also gave performances during this time. The first performance was in the afternoon of New Year's Eve day. The band played two concert shows in front of the Palais des Festivals and then marched a lengthy parade around the streets of Cannes. They had one older woman follow them around the entire parade route cheering and shouting the USD cadence chant. At the end she had her picture taken with Marcia Olson and Stephanie Kocher, who were carrying the banner in the parade. Due to the events of September 11, the other eight to ten high school bands that were to have been there, cancelled. Only USD and one other college band from New Hampshire performed. That evening the band was treated to a very modern dance performance, and then a wonderful banquet and dance at the Palais des Festivals. It was a great celebration!

On New Year's Day, the band performed in front of the palace of Prince Rainer in Monaco. The band played a variety of music from *Jesus Christ Superstar*, some patriotic songs, and our USD School Songs, which were very well received by the audience. After the performance, the directors and drum major presented a delegate of the Prince with the state flag of South Dakota and a proclamation from Governor Janklow. They, in turn, received the official flag of Monaco from their delegation. It was a very proud moment.

The next day the band took a bullet train from Cannes to Paris. They spent the next two days in Paris seeing the sights and experiencing the local food, shops, people, etc. It was a terrific way to end the tour. Throughout the trip the students set the finest example of what it means to be a USD student and an American.

In future large tours with the Marching Coyotes, we hope to notify alumni well ahead of time to give you a chance to travel with us. Thank you for your support of Dakota's Finest, The USD Marching Coyotes. If you are back in Vermillion for a football game, please stop by and say hello to the band!

## Graduate Student Receives Paul Revitt Award at Regional College Music Society Meeting

Christy Kimball, graduate student (organ performance), presented her paper, "Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel: *Das Jahr*," at the College Music Society Great Plains Chapter meeting, Wayne State College, Wayne, NE, on March 22, 2002. She won the Paul Revitt Memorial Award for best graduate student paper. This award is granted annually for the most innovative graduate research. Paul Revitt was a musicologist at UM-KC, and a co-founder of the chapter.



The piano cycle *Das Jahr* was composed between August and December 1841 as a Christmas present for Hensel's husband, Wilhelm. Kimball's paper was a score study of the work using two editions: the published edition of the Mendelssohn Archive Manuscript 47 (1989) and the facsimile edition of the so-called fair copy, Mendelssohn Archive Manuscript 155 (2000).

Two recorded audio examples were used to enhance the presentation. A third example, played by Kimball at the piano, was used to show the difference in the music for the month of June movement from the two different editions—MA Ms 47 was written in a virtuoso style, while MA Ms 155 is in the same key and meter, but is more readily accessible to the average pianist.

Kimball is an organ student of Dr. Larry Schou and a music history student of Dr. David Moskowitz. She received her BM (piano performance) from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, in May 2000. At USD she will complete her M.Mus. in May 2003, followed by the M.Mus. in music history in May 2004. She is planning to pursue doctoral study in musicology following her graduation from USD.

## *Eighth Annual Genevieve Truran Piano Competition*

The Eighth Annual Genevieve Truran Piano Competition for grades 8-12 was held Saturday, March 2, 2002 in the Warren M. Lee Center for the Fine Arts at The University of South Dakota. Thirty young pianists from Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota and North Dakota competed for first and second prize cash awards in each group, grades 8-12. The \$100 first place prizes were awarded to Rachelle DeHaan of Hospers, IA-Grade 8; Nathan Karasch of Rock Rapids, IA-Grade 9; Kenneth Parker of Casselton, ND-Grade 10; Sarah Rohde of Sioux Falls, SD-Grade 11; and Jostein Reiners of Canton, SD-Grade 12. Each competitor played two to three contrasting works by memory in front of an audience and adjudicators. The adjudicators for this year's event were USD faculty members Dr. Susanne Skyrms, Dr. Susan Keith Gray, Dr. Larry Schou and Dr. Matthew Harden.

The competition is organized each year by the Keyboard Area of the Department of Music and is made possible through the Genevieve and John Truran Fund. 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. The Genevieve and John Truran endowed fund was initially established by the USD Faculty Women's Club and by other friends of Genevieve and John Truran. A major portion of the funds was donated by Robert and Marjorie Rawlins, who were both graduates of The University of South Dakota. In 1991 at Genevieve Truran's death, additional funding was received as a bequest and added to the fund. The Truran fund also provides piano scholarships for university students. The Ninth Annual Truran Piano competition is scheduled for Saturday, March 1, 2003. For additional information 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 [sskyrms@usd.edu](mailto:sskyrms@usd.edu)

## Carib Coyotes Perform in Pierre and Rapid City

This past February the Carib Coyotes, USD's top steel drum band, took a tour to Pierre and Rapid City. The trip had a two-fold purpose. One was to bring the music of USD to the central and western parts of the state, and the other was to listen to auditions for music scholarships. The Carib Coyotes were hosted by Larry Johnson, director of bands at TF Riggs High School in Pierre on February 16. The concert was a great success, and the next morning members were treated to a homemade breakfast given by the parents of band member, Mike Powell. The next stop was to perform at Rapid City Stevens High School, hosted by Don Downs and Gary Hansen. After another great concert, the band was given a cheesecake reception by the parents of Connie Dittman, a student at USD. Members of the band include: Danny Tank (Rapid City), Mike Powell (Pierre), Andy Converse (Rapid City), Steve Peterson (Vermillion), Matt Buenzow (Waseca, MN), Aron Nevin (Rapid City), Cara Briggs (Elk Point), and Ryan Berg (Beresford). The band is directed by Dr. Sarah S. Waters.

# 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 27 for the next issue.

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

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

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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## Music Department Honors Professor Frank Aiello



Professor Frank Aiello, long-standing senior member of the vocal division, has retired after thirty-four years in the Department of Music. His loss will be especially deeply felt because of the retirement last spring of Professor Larry Torkelson, after tenure of thirty years. Coming to USD in 1968 and 1971 respectively, these wonderful musicians and dedicated teachers have touched thousands of lives, and their students have taken their influence with them to the far corners of our land and beyond.

Frank Aiello was born in Des Moines, Iowa. He earned a Bachelors and Masters degree in music from Drake University in Des Moines, and a Doctor of Music Arts degree from the University of Oklahoma. He studied with Grant Williams, Professor of Voice at North Texas

State University; Richard Hughes, New York City; Leila Edwards, Coach-Accompanist at the Metropolitan Opera; Hermanus Baer, Emeritus Chair of Voice at Northwestern University; Norman Tattersall, Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music, England; and Margaret Swain, Coach-Accompanist for the late Dame Eva Turner, Royal Academy, London. Aiello performed extensively, including at the Kennedy Center in 1976. In addition to performing and teaching, Frank has been very active as an adjudicator, both regionally and nationally, and continues to maintain a full schedule of clinics, master classes, and festivals. He has served on the National Music Teacher's Association board for vocal literature and contest requirements.

Aiello's students have won Music Teacher's National Association contests at the national level, and Metropolitan Opera auditions at the state, regional, and national levels. Several former students are professional performers in Europe and the United States, and many others are teaching in colleges and public schools. In 1994 Frank was honored as recipient of the coveted Belbas-Larson Award for Teaching Excellence at USD. He also twice served as Department of Music Chair, and, with Professor Dennis Ondrozeck, guided European study tours for USD students.



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