On the cover: TCU faculty Shauna Thompson, flute; Gary Whitman, clarinet; Charles Hall, bassoon; Chip Christ, guitar; and Harold Martina, piano, perform Johann Nepomuk Hummel’s Serenade No. 2, Op. 66 on the Faculty & Friends Chamber Music Series - September, 2013.

Please submit your announcements online via www.music.tcu.edu/dacapo.asp or send your correspondence to:

Da Capo
TCU School of Music
Jeremy Strickland, Editor
TCU Box 297500
Fort Worth, TX 76129

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear TCU School of Music Alumni and Friends:

In last year’s *Da Capo*, I wrote to you about the many wonderful faculty members who have joined us in recent years. Just as part of the life of the School of Music is the graduation of our students followed by the arrival of new ones each year, we also occasionally say goodbye to faculty members who have helped make the TCU School of Music what it is today.

This past spring we said goodbye to faculty colleague John Giordano, who retired from the TCU School of Music after 41 years. What perhaps makes John’s situation a bit different is that his faculty tenure was preceded by his tenure as a TCU undergraduate and graduate student, not to mention his innumerable contributions to music in Fort Worth as music director of the Fort Worth Symphony.

John enrolled as a TCU undergraduate student following his graduation from Birdville High School and a year on the road playing with the big bands of the late 50s (including Ted Weems, Hal McIntyre, Les Brown and Stan Kenton.) He received his undergraduate and graduate degrees at TCU, taught briefly at Tarleton State University and spent a year in Belgium on a Fulbright Scholarship to study saxophone.

In 1972, John was hired by the Fort Worth Symphony and TCU, and the rest is history. Not only did he develop the Fort Worth Symphony into a world-class orchestra, he set the stage for TCU’s orchestral program to become a leading university ensemble.

Following his retirement from the FWSO in 1999, John moved full time to TCU in a role that blended teaching, performance, friend-raising and fundraising. For close to a half-century, his dedication to music, the University, and the community was profound. Needless to say, he will be missed.

The School of Music was pleased to honor John in October with a celebratory concert followed by a dinner onstage in Ed Landreth Auditorium.

Elsewhere in this issue of *Da Capo* you will find additional information about our most recent faculty additions and the extraordinary efforts of our faculty, staff, and students. In 2013-14, more than 250 performances were presented locally, nationally, and internationally, and our faculty members continued to engage in meaningful research and creation of new works. We were extremely proud to confer more than 50 degrees last year.

I extend my heartfelt and public thanks to each and every one of you and my colleagues for your support of the School of Music. I remain privileged and blessed to lead this amazing School of Music at this remarkable university.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Gipson
Director
Seven faculty members from the TCU School of Music (Michael Shih, violin; Misha Galaganov, viola; Jesús Castro-Balbi, cello; Yuan Xiong Lu, double bass; José Feghali, piano; Gary Whitman, clarinet; and Blaise Ferrandino, composition) were invited to perform a chamber music concert “Yuan Xiong Lu and the TCU Chamber Orchestra” in one of the top concert halls in Asia, the world-renowned Shanghai Oriental Arts Center 1,950 seat concert hall.

They had a press conference that involved 26 newspapers, magazines, TV, radio, and internet writers, and reached all over China. The Shanghai Premiere Arts TV Station had 25 workers and 6 video cameras to record their concert. It was broadcasted nationally as a special program. This was the first time the Shanghai Premiere Arts TV station recorded and broadcasted a chamber music concert in China. Shanghai Classical Music Radio Station (94.7 FM) also recorded their concert and broadcasted it nationally in January, 2014.

The TCU Chamber Orchestra is the only US university group that has been promoted and widely advertised across China. Two of our own TCU faculty composers, Blaise Ferrandino and Martin Blessinger, arranged two traditional compositions to dedicate to the Shanghai audience. These arrangements were both a huge success with the audience in China.

Professor Yuan Xiong Lu interviewed and performed for a one-hour live special program at the Shanghai Radio Station Premier Classical Channel to introduce the TCU School of Music. He also provided 3 lectures at the Shanghai Classical Music Radio Station, Shanghai Oriental Arts Center Music Appreciation Society, and the Shanghai Symphony Music Appreciation Association to promote TCU at an international level. Our seven faculty members gave masterclasses and visited the East China Normal University and each of them was honored to receive a 2013 Visiting Professorship.

Our seven faculty members gave masterclasses and visited the East China Normal University and each of them was honored to receive a 2013 Visiting Professorship. Professor Yuan Xiong Lu was honored to receive a Permanent Visiting Professorship. It was the beginning of a mutually beneficial relationship between TCU and ECNU.
The 2013-14 School year was a busy one for the TCU Jazz Program. In addition to our “regular” fall concert schedule, “Jazz I” took on a unique collaboration with the Department of Language Studies during the TCU Language and Culture Festival. The ensemble presented a unique program, featuring a variety of jazz having its origins from around the globe. This gave the ensemble the opportunity to perform for a very diverse audience who might not otherwise attend a big band jazz concert.

All in attendance heralded the ensemble’s performance as a success with one notable alumnus commenting, “That’s the best I’ve ever heard this band!”

The 37th Annual TCU Jazz Festival attracted 30 outstanding middle school and high school ensembles from the region and showcased the talents of our very special “Green Chair” Scholar and guest artist, drummer/composer Peter Erskine. Mr. Erskine not only performed with the ensemble but also conducted a very informative clinic session with our students, sharing his pedagogical expertise and some very entertaining anecdotes from his storied career. “Jazz II,” under the direction of Joey Carter, also performed at the Annual Jazz Festival and took on a unique collaboration with our “Purple, White and Blues” Jazz Vocal Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Amy Stewart. Their combined concert was the first of what will hopefully be much collaboration between the instrumental and vocal jazz areas at TCU in the years to come.

In April, “Jazz I” was on the road, performing at the 44th Annual UNC/ Greeley Jazz Festival, held on the campus of the University of Northern Colorado. The ensemble once again distinguished itself with an outstanding performance. A panel of nationally recognized adjudicators called the band’s performance “excellent,” “superb,” and “stunning in every way!” Garrett Wingfield (saxophone), Payton Stevens (saxophone), Luke Wingfield (trumpet), Alex Neal (guitar) and Andy Eldridge (drums) were all recognized as “outstanding soloists” for the festival.

The year culminated with what has evolved into an annual “last day of classes” big band jam outside the Brown-Lupton University Union with both of our big bands performing. It was a great way to end a great year! We hope you’ll join us for some of our upcoming concerts during 2014-15. The 38th Annual TCU Jazz Festival will take place on March 20-21, 2015 with special guest artist, clarinetist/saxophonist Paquito D’Rivera. We hope to see you there!
It was a privilege and honor to host the 2014 TCU International Double Bass Festival on March 8th and 9th at our beautiful campus. The festival featured 10 masterclasses, 5 lectures, 6 recitals, an orchestral competition, and a huge display for the exhibitions (around 100 basses displayed). More than 200 bassists were in the TCU School of Music building! Participants and artists arrived from all over the United States including California, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, and Oklahoma. Some even arrived from as far as Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, and Israel.

The orchestral competition took place on the morning of Saturday, March 8th with the first round and the finals ending later that afternoon. Many talented bassists displayed their hard work and orchestral playing skills for the judges. There were 6 judges on the panel and expectations were at a very high level since some of them are current principal bassists in major orchestras.

The results were announced that evening and first prize was awarded to William Gowen, Artist Diploma ’12, student of Professor Yuan Xiong Lu at TCU who received $1000. Second prize was August Ramos, student of Professor Tim Pitts at Rice University. He received $500. The third prize recipient of $300 went to Michael J. Fuller II, another student of Professor Tim Pitts at Rice University. Honorable Mentions included Joe Ferris, student of Mr. Lawrence Wolfe of the New England Conservatory and Peng Wang, also a student of Professor Yuan Xiong Lu at TCU.

The festival had a very intensive schedule filled with many exciting events. While some students displayed their abilities at the competition, others participated in masterclasses and listened to lectures presented by various world-renowned teachers and artists such as Jeff Bradetich, Paul Ellison, Eugene Levinson, Michael Klinghoffer, and Frank Proto.
On April 6, 2014, the TCU Horn Studio hosted its sixth annual HornFest. This year’s event featured the world famous Richard Todd, who can be heard playing horn on thousands of film score soundtracks in addition to performing as Principal horn of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra throughout the year. The event attracted over 100 students, teachers, and horn enthusiasts to the BLUU Auditorium where they participated in competitions, listened to a classical recital by Richard Todd, assisted by TCU faculty member Janet Pummill on piano, a masterclass, improvisation class, and rehearsal led by Richard Todd, and a heart-stopping jazz horn performance by the Richard Todd Quartet comprised of TCU faculty member Joey Carter on piano, TCU students Andrew Eldridge on drum set, and Henry Brown on bass. On the finale concert, the TCU Horn Ensemble was delighted to perform Richard Todd’s arrangement of *Days of Wine and Roses* under his own baton as well as a special mass horn choir performance of Sterling Procter’s *Fanfare for a Thousand*, under the direction of TCU faculty member, Mr. Bobby Francis. We invite you to our next HornFest on April 19, 2015, where we will be educated and serenaded by the lovely Michelle Reed Baker of The Metropolitan Opera horn section. Save the Date!

Look for the TCU Horn Ensemble to perform a musical showcase concert at the Texas Music Educators Association conference inside the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center of San Antonio, TX on Friday, February 13, 2015 at 9:30am in front of the CC West Registration area. This year’s studio, comprised of music education, music performance, and music composition majors, is bigger and better than ever!
The 2014 fourth Clear Creek Music Festival was a resounding success with record student enrollment, the addition of cello to the instructional offerings of voice, piano, and composition, high quality performances, world premières, and moments of magical uniqueness that electrified the tiny community of Halfway, Oregon.

Horned Frogs in the two-week Festival included Sarah Dunham (MM ’15), Brigitte Reinke (MM ’15), McCaryn Bourgoise (BM ’16), Nathan Berry (BM ’17), Lauren White (BME ’17) and incoming MM composition student Ian Guthrie from Marylhurst University joining students from the Universities of Rochester, Arizona State, and Texas Lutheran. Practice, instruction, and performance activities were interspersed with riding horseback, taking jet boat rides..., making jam preserves from wild fruit, and exploring exotic instruments... 

Jesús Castro-Balbi joined fellow TCU faculty Sheila Allen and Blaise Ferrandino provided instruction along with tenor and choral conductor Matthew Valverde (BA ’07, MM ’09, DMA candidate at the Eastman School of Music), pianists and collaborative artists Gregory Allen (UT Austin), David Yeomans (Emeritus, Texas Woman’s U), and John Mueter (Kansas City Conservatory, U of Kansas). Lauren White did a superb job with the Clear Creek Kids chorus, while Sarah Dunham and Brigitte Reinke worked with the teen-age singers.

The final concert featured three world premières. The commissioned cantata, Fern Hobbs in the Land of the Setting Sun by Blaise Ferrandino, made everyone aware of an extraordinary Oregonian woman of...
the early 20th century, and taught us the Oregon State Song in counterpoint with original material. Two other compositions were inspired by personal interactions during the Festival: Nathan Berry (BM ’17) wrote a trio for 2 cellos and piano for an autistic child from the community who was moved by a performance of one of his compositions earlier in the Festival, and Ian Guthrie (MM ’16) wrote a delightful song for Sarah Dunham (MM ’15), whom he first met as the Festival began. Ian’s song has become the first in a set they will perform at TCU sometime during the year.

Student comments sum up the summer’s experience: “Halfway is awesome!” “I was able to relax and de-stress while still making a lot of progress.” “The freedom to practice whenever! Loved outings, especially loved the positive, encouraging environment and relaxed [atmosphere].” The Conversations on the Arts sessions provided great interaction and awareness of everybody’s aesthetics, and how to reach each other through music.” “With the pieces that I was learning, the nature that surrounds Halfway provided superior inspiration….Keep up the great work!” “Overall, I loved the music[al] opportunities, as well as so many activities I would not have done elsewhere.” “I loved my time with the kids…highlight of every day.” “I enjoyed working closely with all the faculty and the [support] that I had from other musicians. It has been a very valuable musical experience.” “When I . . . discovered just how much the community supported us, [I found this] the most valuable [of the Clear Creek experience]. Not something you see very often!”
Professor Yuan Xiong Lu (Double Bass) and Dr. H. Joseph Butler (Organ) presented a concert in the world-renowned Shanghai Oriental Arts Center Concert Hall with our Artist Diploma student pianist Evan Mitchell on May 17, 2014. The hall was completely sold out. Shanghai TV Premier Arts Channel video recorded their concert for a future national broadcast, and Shanghai Classical Radio Station broadcasted their concert live nationally. Many major newspapers (including Shanghai Daily, China Daily, Oriental Post, Shanghai Morning News, Shanghai Evening News, Shanghai Musicians’ Newspaper, etc.) interviewed them and wrote many articles about their concert to promote TCU.

Professor Yuan Xiong Lu and Dr. H. Joseph Butler visited and gave masterclasses and demonstrations at the Shenyang Conservatory of Music from May 18-22, 2014. Dr. Butler also performed an organ recital at the concert hall of the Shenyang Conservatory of Music on May 21, 2014. These were the highlights of the Shenyang Conservatory’s music festival. They received great feedback from their masterclasses and recital, and the trip was a huge success.
2013-2014 was an eventful year for the TCU Flute Studio! In February, new flute professor Dr. Shauna Thompson was delighted to perform at the TMEA convention in San Antonio with the TCU Wind Symphony as the featured concerto soloist on “Shadow of Sirius” by Joel Puckett. The Wind Symphony and Dr. Thompson performed to an enthusiastic crowd of more than 2,000 students, parents, educators, and TCU alumni.

Then on April 12, Dr. Thompson and the flute studio hosted the 1st annual TCU Flute Festival featuring Demarre McGill, principal flutist of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Middle school, high school, and amateur flutists from all over the state participated in workshops, solo performances, and masterclasses throughout the day. We are pleased to expand the festival next year to include even more solo evaluation opportunities and workshops for beginner flutists. Save the date for next year’s Flute Festival on 3/28/15!

In June the SOM added to its summer schedule by hosting the Summer Flute Workshop. Another first! Advanced middle school and high school students worked closely with Dr. Thompson on fundamentals, performance skills, and ensemble skills, and more during this 2-day intensive workshop. Join us next summer for the second annual Summer Flute Workshop!

The busy year wrapped up in August when SOM professors Dr. Shauna Thompson, flute, and Janet Pummill, piano, were invited to give the world premiere of TCU composer Till MacIvor Meyn’s “Force of Nature” for flute and piano at the National Flute Association’s annual convention. The performance was given in front of esteemed flutists from around the world and represented an invaluable opportunity for new music from TCU to be performed on flute playing’s largest stage.

Find us on Facebook- TCU Flute Studio- and give us a “like” to stay updated!
TROMBONE CHOIR

The TCU Trombone Choir gave two performances at the prestigious International Trombone Festival in June 2014 by competitive selection. Held this year in the United States at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, this festival is the premiere event for the instrument and featured international artists at the top of the profession. Highlights of the TCU Trombone Choir’s programs included two premieres, one by TCU faculty Blaise Ferrandino and the other by David Samson (New York). The ensemble was joined by guest soloist Lisa Albrecth of the Rochester Philharmonic and also featured student soloists Maya Basdeo, freshman, and Tanner Webb, senior, as seen in the photos.

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DOUBLE BASS STUDIO

The students and faculty at both schools were deeply impressed by the masterclasses.

Professor Yuan Xiong Lu gave masterclasses and demonstrations at Arizona State University and Texas Tech University in 2013. Professor Lu emphasized orchestral excerpts and solo techniques. The students and faculty at both schools were deeply impressed by the masterclasses.

Professor Lu was invited by East China Normal University to give a masterclass and demonstration in May 2014. This trip helped set up a new relationship between the TCU School of Music and East China Normal University College of Music.

In June 2013, Professor Lu also gave an orchestral masterclass at the Eastman School of Music for the International Society of Bassists Convention.

Ira Gold, bassist with the National Symphony Orchestra, and faculty member at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, gave a masterclass and demonstration for our double bass students last fall. He emphasized the importance of preparing for an orchestral audition. Gold explained and helped give students a better understanding of how to play a successful audition.

Professor Tian Rui Zhao, from the Shenyang Conservatory of Music, gave a masterclass for our double bass students in Spring, 2014. He emphasized some important double bass techniques. There were many insights and details Zhao explained to help students be successful performers.
Andrew Eldridge (DMA) and Neil Hoang (Junior; BME) advanced to the semi-final round of the 2014 Southern California International Marimba Competition held in Orange, California. 137 marimbists from all over the world submitted a preliminary tape, and only 15 were selected to attend semi-finals. Additionally, Andrew advanced to the final four, an honor he has accomplished the past two times the competition has been held.

Neil Hoang (Junior; BME) advanced to the semi-final round of the 2014 Great Plains International Marimba Competition held in Oklahoma City, OK.

The percussion studio had several percussion students win national auditions to become members of a drum and bugle corps in the summer of 2014. These students toured the United States all summer, and the tour culminated in the World Championships in Indianapolis, Indiana. Brandon Cummings (Sophomore; BME) was a member of the Blue Knights, Barbara Lund (Senior; BME) was a member of the Boston Crusaders, Nathan Urushima (Sophomore; BME) was a member of Santa Clara Vanguard, and Mike Olsen, MM ’14, was a front ensemble tech with the Blue Knights. Furthermore, Nathan was integral to the Santa Clara Vanguard Drumline being awarded the Fred Sanford Award for highest percussion score of finals competition.

Tanner Trigg, BME ’11, Director of Percussion at Aledo High School, won the Percussive Arts Society International Percussion Ensemble Competition. His percussion ensemble will play a featured Showcase Concert at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in November 2014.
TCU BANDS  An Amazing Year for TCU Bands!

This past year was very exciting for the TCU band program at TCU. In addition to many “home” concerts by the TCU Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band, concerts by the TCU Jazz Ensembles and other groups were very successful.

The TCU Horned Frog Marching Band was proud to support TCU athletics during the football and basketball seasons. We look forward to providing continued support as we move ahead.

Congratulations to this year’s Band of Fame members Dr. Skip Dolt III and Paul Dods. This is a well-deserved honor for you.

To help with future recruiting and to provide a “window” to TCU, the TCU Horned Frog Marching Band performed in exhibition at the Texas State UIL marching contest on November 5th at the Alamo Dome in San Antonio.

This past year was very challenging and exciting for all the bands at TCU. The TCU Wind Symphony performed for a “full house” at the TMEA Convention in San Antonio. This is a huge convention attended by over 22,000 music educators from across Texas. In addition, the TCU Symphonic Band was invited to perform at the annual CBDNA (College Band Directors National Association) Southwest Conference in Fayetteville, Arkansas in March. The only “second band” invited, the group performed beautifully under the skilled leadership of Brian Youngblood and guest conductor Jeremy Strickland.

To help with future recruiting and to provide a “window” to TCU, the TCU Horned Frog Marching Band performed in...
exhibition at the Texas State UIL marching contest on November 5th at the Alamo Dome in San Antonio. The audience consisted of over 20,000 high school band students, their directors and parents. The Horned Frog Marching Band was a real “hit”! Congratulations to Mr. Youngblood, Mr. Strickland, Dr. West and Mr. Hodge for a job well done!

This is a dynamic opportunity for the band to recruit from the best bands across the state of Texas. Without recruiting, there is no TCU band.

Congratulations to Joe Eckert and the TCU Jazz Ensemble for their outstanding performance at the National Jazz Education Network conference in Dallas and the UNC-Greeley Jazz Festival in Colorado.

Our alumni continue to make us proud! Many have gone on to be successful music educators across the state and throughout the nation. We placed 14 new music educators into the public education system in Texas and sent a few more on to graduate school. Congratulations to Dr. Eric Simpson – TCU Instrumental Music Education – for his expert leadership in preparing students to become leaders in the music education field.

Don’t forget that CD’s and DVD’s are available through the TCU Band Office. We have the 100 year anniversary CD and DVD, Wind Symphony CDs, Jazz CDs, Percussion Ensemble CDs, School of Music Christmas CD’s and a set of Marching Band performances selected by Prof. Jacobson and compiled into a DVD collection! Contact Debbie Alenius at d.alenius@tcu.edu for more information.

Best wishes for a great year!
PianoTexas International Academy & Festival presented by the School of Music concluded its 33rd year this June. As with each and every year in the past, the applicants’ pool included talented young artists, amateurs, and teachers from across the globe. In the end, 35 young artists, 23 teachers, and 33 amateurs were selected to attend. Participants represented 18 countries, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Hungary, India, Japan, México, Poland, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, Ukraine and USA.

The PianoTexas Distinguished Artist Series presented a superb group of internationally renowned pianists featuring works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in their performances. Sean Chen, Alon Goldstein, Alexander Shtarkman, John Perry, Hung-Kuan Chen, as well as a selection of TCU Faculty, each gave critically acclaimed performances for enthusiastic audiences. Winners of the PianoTexas concerto competition were invited to perform with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra in the PianoTexas Symphonic Series under the baton of Geoffrey Simon and Jens Georg Bachman. The highlight of the 2014 PianoTexas Festival was the Benefit Concert featuring Joyce Yang, Felicia He and Jeffrey Zhang (11-year-old students from the Juilliard School’s pre-college division) with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra conducted by the legendary Conductor Emeritus John Giordano. All performing artists and conductors were joined by TCU’s notable piano faculty in offering daily master classes, private lessons, and educational discussions on the works of Mozart, as well as informal conversations during the entire course of the program. Mozart’s chamber music was also brought into the spotlight through master classes and recitals coordinated by TCU Professor of Cello, Jesús Castro-Balbi. The community outreach program offered performances at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth. Audiences from all areas of North Texas were delighted by regular, free recitals given by participants covering keyboard music from several periods of music history. Many of the programs were also streamed to worldwide audiences.

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The 34th PianoTexas International Academy & Festival will be held in June 2015. Save the date to celebrate “The Poet of the Piano: Frederic Chopin.” We will present distinguished artist recitals, concerto performances with the Fort Worth Symphony, master classes with legendary pianists, and evenings filled with your favorite piano music by outstanding talents from across the globe.
Students from all divisions in the School of Music are selected to compete in the finals of the 39th annual Pi Kappa Lambda Honors Recital.

Neil Hoang, marimba
Hannah Urias, soprano
Janet Pummill, piano

Xuesha Hu, piano
Maria Wietrzynska, piano

Aaron Pritchett, soprano saxophone; Will McLaughlin, alto saxophone; Peter Trigg, tenor saxophone; Garrett Wingfield, baritone saxophone
FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

In July, 2014, MARTIN BLESSINGER was the guest composer at the first annual Talis International Festival and Academy in beautiful Saas-Fee, Switzerland. Nestled high in the Alps, Saas-Fee served as a wonderfully inspirational backdrop for a focused week of performances, composition master classes, and camaraderie with artists from around the globe. Adding to the international flavor, Blessinger’s Fantasy on Ye Shanghai, originally written for the “TCU in China” faculty tour to Shanghai, was performed in a new arrangement composed specifically for the artists of the Talis Festival.

After a successful first edition, the Talis Festival and Academy will return to the mountains next summer in an expanded format. Blessinger was asked to continue his relationship with the Talis Festival as a permanent member of the composition faculty. For more information, please see http://www.talisfestival.com/ or visit the academy on Facebook.

Musician COLLEEN H. MALLETTE is pleased to announce she has been approved for inclusion on the new Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) Texas Touring Roster. The Texas Touring Roster features some of the state’s best artistic talent and is designed to ensure that all Texans may enjoy events and performances by these artists in their local communities.

Mallette is one of 150 artists and arts companies selected for inclusion on the roster.

“Artists on the Texas Touring Roster travel to communities across the state and perform in a variety of venues,” said TCA executive director Gary Gibbs. “In addition to performances, they may also conduct workshops, master classes, residencies, lecture-demonstrations or arts education components as a way to engage community residents. We are proud to offer the citizens of Texas access to such high-quality artistic talent.”

Acceptance onto the Texas Touring Roster benefits artists like Mallette by giving them a powerful marketing tool. Access to grant funds combined with the fact that Texas Touring Roster artists have been deemed the best in their field by a panel of statewide experts makes these artists attractive to a variety of presenters, including schools, festivals, theaters and other venues.

In addition to masterclasses and clinics in the local school districts of Fort Worth and Lewisville, Whitman traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska in April 2014, where he served as the guest artist/clinician for the Midwest ClarinetFest at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. He also presented the clinic on the TMEA All State clarinet audition music for the 2014-2015 academic year at the 2014 Texas Bandmasters Association Convention in San Antonio.

He continues to perform as bass clarinetist with the Fort Worth Symphony in the Classical Subscription Series, the “Pops,” and the Fort Worth Opera Festival at Bass Performance Hall. During the 2014 Fort Worth Opera Festival, he participated in the Southwest premiere of Silent Night by Kevin Puts.

In addition to his joint faculty clarinet recital with Victoria Luperi and JANET PUMMILL, he performed with Trio Con Brio (Misha Galaganov, viola and JOHN OWINGS, piano), on their annual chamber music recital at TCU. Trio Con Brio was also featured on the new CD release, Chiaroscuro, the chamber music of composer Richard Lavenda. The featured work was Heat of the Moment, for clarinet, viola and piano.

Whitman continues to serve on the artist/clinician roster for the Buffet Group USA, Inc., and D’Addario Woodwinds. He continues to administer and teach at the TCU Summer Clarinet Workshop with
Andrew Crisanti and Victoria Luperi. The 2014 workshop attracted 20 high school clarinetists, teachers and professionals throughout the metroplex for two days of masterclasses and clinics.

JANET PUMMILL, Coordinator of Collaborative Piano, continues to have a very active performing schedule with the TCU School of Music for faculty recitals, student recitals, ensemble concerts, new faculty auditions, All State Choir camp and master classes. Highlights were performances with the Wind Symphony on tour, TMEA, Latin American Music Festival; Hornfest 2014, Organist with Chorale at Arborlawn United Methodist Church; Guest Artist recitals with Oystein Baadsvik, Tuba and Nina Assimakopoulos, Flute; Accompanist for Winner of the Singer of the Year, NATS; Accompanist for Honor Choirs for ACDA Southern Division; Played recital with Jonathan Beyer, Baritone, in The McCammon Voice Competition Recital Series at the Kimbell Renzo Piano Pavilion; Senior Choir accompanist, North Carolina Summer Institute of Choral Art; Organist for Okla. State University Concert Chorale and University Singers for Durufle Requiem; Organist for performance of Rutter Requiem, First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth; published a new choral composition with Walton Music, Inc.; premiered a composition, Force of Nature written for both Janet and SHAUNA THOMPSON by TILL MACIVOR MEYN for the National Flute Association in Chicago; and continued as Associate Organist for University Christian Church until September 1, 2014.

JOHN OWINGS, Professor of Piano, was a member of the faculty of the Round Top (Texas) Festival Institute in June. While there, he performed in chamber music concerts with musicians from the American Brass Quintet, the Dorian Wind Quintet, Indiana University, The Juilliard School, Louisiana State University, National Symphony Orchestra, New England Conservatory and Oberlin Conservatory. In August, he was a member of the jury for the 14th Ettlingen International Competition for Young Pianists in Ettlingen, Germany.

Pianist JOSE PABLO QUESADA just finished his 2013-2014 year with major changes in his personal and professional life. After finishing all course work and passing the DMA comprehensive exams, at Texas Christian University, Quesada continued his performance career in Latin America with more than ten performances including lecture recitals, concerts with orchestra, and master classes. Highlights from his performances include multiple presentations of Bach’s Goldberg Variations and the world premiere of the Concertino for Piano and Orchestra by the Venezuelan composer Diana Arismendi with the Heredia Symphony Orchestra in Costa Rica. As a guest teacher Quesada was invited to perform several master classes in important institutions of the American continent including among them the Eastman Community Music School in Rochester (NY) and the University of Costa Rica in San José. Quesada's past year also included the release of the CD “Tiempos” performing with the Heredia Symphony Orchestra the Concerto for Piano and Orchestra, Op. 13 by the Costa Rican composer Carlos Enrique Vargas.

As an arts administrator, Jose Pablo Quesada became the Operations Manager for PianoTexas International Academy & Festival which concluded its 33rd year with a worldwide celebration of the music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; at the same time, he concluded the IV Costa Rica International Piano Series with ten performances, including among them the opening recital featuring TCU piano student Nozomi Iwai. Starting in Fall 2014, Quesada joined the faculty of the TCU School of Music as Instructor of Musicology and the faculty of the National University of Costa Rica as a Graduate Professor of Piano.

In his personal life, Jose Pablo Quesada and his wife WON YONG LEE, AD ’11, celebrated the birth of their first born son Jose Daniel Quesada.

KRISTEN QUEEN, Assistant Director for Academic Programs and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Music, presented “Teaching Yoga for Musicians to Empower and Recharge our Students” as part of the 2014 College Music Society (CMS) South Central Chapter Conference at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, March 7-8, 2014. Ms. Queen is now teaching the third semester of her course, “Yoga for Musicians,” in the TCU School of Music, one of very few music schools in the United States to offer a yoga course as part of its curriculum. She looks forward to offering presentations at other upcoming conferences and institutions.

LAURA LOGAN BRANDENBURG, Adjunct Instructor of Harp, has been named Southwestern Regional Director of the American Harp Society.

Assistant Professor of Musicology WILLIAM GIBBONS had a busy 2013-2014 academic year publishing and presenting on the roles of music in video games. His co-edited book Music in Video Games: Studying Play (Routledge Press), which contains his essay “Wandering Tonalities: Music, Silence, and Morality in Shadow of the Colossus,” was published, and he contributed chapters on game music to the new editions of the textbooks Listen to This and What's that Sound? An Introduction to Rock and Its History. In January Dr. Gibbons was invited to speak about “Remixed Metaphors: Manipulating Classical Music and Its Meanings in Video Games” on the Indiana University Musicology Lecture Series, and in May he presented on “Classical/Klassical: Music and Duality in Catherine” at the annual Music and the Moving Image conference at New York University. Dr. Gibbons was also a conference organizer and chair of the program committee for the inaugural North American Conference on Music in Video Games, an event at Youngstown State University that drew game-music scholars from around the world and was featured in Wired Magazine, an Associated Press story, and other news outlets.
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El festival, que lleva diez años premiando a jóvenes compositores, distingue

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Shauna Kay Thompson is the Assistant Professor of Flute at Texas Christian University. She holds a DMA and MM in flute performance from the University of Cincinnati’s College-Conservatory of Music where she studied with Brad Garner and served as his teaching assistant. She completed additional studies with Randy Bowman, principal flute of the Cincinnati Symphony. Dr. Thompson also received a Bachelor of Music from Texas Tech University where she studied with Lisa Garner Santa. Prior to joining the TCU faculty Dr. Thompson served as consortium instructor of flute at the University of Evansville and principal flute with the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra. She has also previously served as principal flute of the Lubbock Symphony and second flute with the Midland Odessa Symphony Orchestra.

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See link below for full article:
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The cycle was premiered at the opening concert of the 10th annual Barcelona Festival of Song on June 26, 2014 at Arts Santa Monica in Barcelona, Spain. The concert was also streamed live via Youtube; a recording of the performance can be found at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TJ9k8XR9_Is

From left to right: Silvia Gutiérrez, Nicolás Gutiérrez (class of 2015), Dr. Patricia Caicedo, Dr. Germán Gutiérrez

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ESTELLE HARRINGTON RUSSOM, BA-MUSIC/BA-GERMAN ’76 recalls her time at TCU. I have fond pictures in my head of turning pages for many of the students of EMMET G. SMITH, D.MUS. ’12, and MADAME LILI KRAUSE who generously opened their ranks to this harpist. I was always blown away by the sheer musicianship of my friends, and it was such a joy to hear them practice and attend their recitals, as well as to hang out with them. CHARLENE WRIGHT SMITH, BM ’75, and others of the people in the picture with Dr. Smith in the last Da Capo were ones I turned pages for at one time or another. I have always known I was treated to a few years of very special private concerts! Some of these students were organ Fulbrights, and other award winners in organ and piano.

Highlights were hearing Madame Krause practicing one morning when I was visiting Louise Spain*, who lived in the same duplex as Madame. Louise also treated me to the Beethoven “Emperor” Concerto. MICHAEL REED, MA ’77, another of her students, was prepping for an audition, and because I was equipped with a small cassette recorder, he asked if I would help him to record the Chopin “Fantasy” for the audition. We decided that the very best way to record was if I would put me and the recorder UNDER this huge, gorgeous 40 foot grand!! I know, I know…somewhat of an exaggeration – but not much! But I can tell you there is no exaggeration in the magnificence of that memory!

I remember the wonderful classes in All Things Music, including (but not limited to) music theory labs with MICHAEL BEDFORD, BM/BME ’72, MM ’75, (now Dr. Bedford). That is a man of incredible humor and patience as well as knowledge! I was blessed to have SYDNEY PAYNE WILSON (now Howell) as my harp instructor. She and I have kept in touch over the years. She is also one blessed with humor and patience! I remember class with DR. MICHAEL WINESANKER, WHAT A LOT OF WORK – and resulting fund of knowledge!

While I did not study organ with Dr. Smith, over the years I found myself in various classes he taught. He gave many lessons which became highly relevant to me as a wedding musician, regarding selection of wedding music repertoire. Parenthetically, my niece, a TCU graduate in nursing, and her husband, also a TCU graduate, were married in Carr Chapel, and we were honored that Dr. Smith played for their wedding! I could go on about all of my memories for pages.

After TCU, I earned a degree in geology. During this time, I did a lot of harp gigs, and had some marvelous experiences. It was during that time that I began arranging music. I never practiced geology, because I graduated just in time for the magnificent oil bust of 1983/84! I married Vern Russom and we settled in northern Oklahoma. My dad would say that I'm a professional student, for I went back to school again and earned a degree in nursing. I don't regret ANY of the education I've received!

Over the years I was stunned to discover a love of music composing. I guess arranging was like a gateway for composition. It was NOT AT ALL my desire or faintest aspiration while at TCU to pursue composition. In fact, in my opinion, my theory lab compositions were awkward and didn’t sound very good at all! I can only imagine the sheer terror this report might generate in Mike Bedford!

Somehow the interest in composition continued to quicken, and I have been fortunate to be involved in the Federated Music Club nearby with a very strong music composition interest group. (My fellow composers in the club are amazing!) They have been encouraging me for many years, and I can count on getting a call from our chairman every year, “Well, are you going to have something for our Composer Workshop this year?” Sometimes I do, but other years I’ve had to scramble as hard as though I had something to turn in to Mike Bedford! It has been fun stretching myself to meet a deadline, and to find that over the years I have learned much. I actually like my compositions and arrangements now, which are fairly technically simple pieces for the harp and sometimes harp in combination with other instruments. I also have Mike's instruction living in my head along with Sydney's, Dr. Smith's, and other TCU instructors. I realize now that at the time I often did not have the faintest idea the significance of information that was being presented, but somehow the teachers penetrated the haze, for in the process of writing, these little things would float back to me as I needed them! I recently completed a raw recording of one of my works which is a series of 12 meditations, entitled “Heart Poems, Charity by the Hour,” for solo harp.

I do wish ALL of my TCU friends and associates well, and thank each for the big parts they have played in enriching my life.

KATHY ROWNTREE GRINS, BS, CHEMISTRY ’69, BA, MUSIC ’85, Keller, TX has recently created the first in a series of piano teaching applications which are accessible from I-PAD, iPhone, Android and other platforms. The application is called Notes for Piano and will be available in the Apple iTunes and Google Play stores.

KYLER ORTH, BM, PIANO PERFORMANCE ’13, was admitted this year as a Master of Music student at New England Conservatory of Music. He is studying under scholarship as a student of Wha Kyung Byun and Russell Sherman. This year Kyle gave several recitals at universities and colleges in the DFW metroplex, including Richland Community College and Texas Women’s University. He was awarded top prizes in the Wideman International Piano Competition, Lewisville International Piano Competition, and Pames Concerto Competition. As a winner of the Redlands Bowl Young Artists’ Auditions, he performed at the Redlands Bowl Young Artist Concert in California, in which his playing was described as “lyrical…with power and confidence” by the press (Betty Tyler, Redlands Daily Facts). Additionally, Kyle took First Place in the Dallas Chamber Symphony.
International Piano Competition, and will be performing Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 20 with the DCS as a soloist in their 2014-2015 season. In September of 2013, Kyle married RACHEL ARCEGA, BM, VIOLIN PERFORMANCE ’13 in downtown Plano, Texas. They are now living together in Boston, Massachusetts with their cat Nana. For more news and information, please visit www.kyleorth.com.

SAHUN “SAM” HONG, BM ’11, was a featured performer on several concert series in the year 2013-2014. In October, he played a solo recital on the Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, where he also gave educational concerts in high schools. In February, he performed the Chopin Concerto No. 2 with the Racine Symphony Orchestra in Wisconsin and gave a masterclass on Chopin to local high school students. In May, he gave three recitals at Steinway Hall in Fort Worth, Dallas, and Piano. Sam finished his summer performances in Milwaukee with an opening recital for the 2014 PianoArts North American Competition, which he won in 2012. Sam is in his second year of graduate studies at the Peabody Institute in Baltimore as a scholarship student of Leon Fleisher.

ZHAOLEI XIE, ARTIST DIPLOMA – PIANO PERFORMANCE ’10, HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI earned his Artist Diploma in Piano Performance from TCU where he studied with JOHN OWINGS in 2010. He also holds Bachelor’s degree with honors from Southeastern Louisiana University and Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from Manhattan School of Music in New York City. He is a member of PHI KAPPA PHI National Honor Society. In 2014, Mr. Xie was appointed as Staff Accompanist in The University of Southern Mississippi. Mr. Xie has appeared as orchestral soloist with the Monroe Symphony Orchestra, Mid-Texas Symphony Orchestra, Texas Christian University Symphony Orchestra and Southeastern Louisiana University Chamber Orchestra. He is also active as a recitalist, chamber musician and piano accompanist. Mr. Xie has performed piano solo and chamber music in Ed Landreth Auditorium and PepsiCo Recital Hall at TCU and Miller Recital Hall and Greenfield Hall in New York City. He has served as piano accompanist at Southeastern Louisiana University and the Thurnauer School of Music of Kaplen JCC on the Palisades in New Jersey. Mr. Xie has participated in master classes given by YOHEVED KAPLINSKY and JOSÉ FEGHALI at TCU. The website link for Mr. Xie: http://www.usm.edu/music/zhaolei-xie

VANESSA BECERRA, BM, VOCAL PERFORMANCE ’12, FORT WORTH, TX, Fort Worth Opera debut in “With Blood, With Ink” portraying Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz was followed by graduation from the Boston Conservatory with Master of Music degree in Opera Performance. This summer she was an Apprentice Artist with Des Moines Metro Opera and in the fall moved to Los Angeles as a member of the Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist Program of LA Opera.

The TCU School of Music is now a member of the American Airlines Business ExtrAA program. Simply put, if you enter the School of Music Code, 778230, into the Business ExtrAA field when you book air travel on American, the School of Music will benefit. This works whether you are booking professional or personal travel — anything on American Airlines counts.

Keep in mind that this will in no way impact your personal AAdvantage miles — they will continue to be awarded as usual.

By also entering 778230 in the Business ExtrAA field, the School of Music will receive points at the same time you receive miles. We hope to gather enough points to help pay for student travel. UPDATE: You may now enter this code in your AAdvantage profile setup, thereby automatically populating the field when you book your travel (https://www.aa.com/myAccount/reservationPreferencesAccess.do).
OBITUARIES

BETTE DYER, adjunct professor of violin and Suzuki specialist who taught at TCU from September, 1988 to May, 1993, died January 18, 2014. No memorial service was held because she donated her body to UTSW.

ESTHER FRUMHARTZ WINESANKER, beloved wife of the late Professor Michael Winesanker, passed away peacefully Monday morning, Aug. 4, 2014. Mrs. Winesanker was 98 years young.

IRA JULIUS SCHANTZ, 91, went to his heavenly reward on March 16, 2014 from his home in Rogers, Arkansas. Ira was born on August 11, 1922 in Roby, Texas to Gustav L. Schantz and Gesena (Gruben) Schantz. He attended the Lubbock Public Schools.

Ira served in the U.S. Army in World War II as a Technician in the Philippines, 1942-46, where he appeared regularly on many G.I. radio programs and as soloist for numerous army-sponsored affairs.

In 1950, he graduated with a Bachelor of Music from North Texas State University, where he also did post graduate work, 1951-64.

From 1953-55, he was a professional singer in New York City and member of the famous Robert Shaw Chorale. While a resident of New York City, he was soloist with such organizations as the American Concert Choir and the Cantata Singers. He is one of the tenor soloists on the Vox recording of Stravinsky’s “Mass” with the American Concert Choir and Orchestra.

During his career, Ira was Instructor of Vocal Music at Texas Tech University, 1950-52 and 1955-57 and Howard County Junior College, 1957-64. In 1964, he became Associate Professor of Voice in the Department of Music at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas where he taught until his retirement in 1985. He also served as music director and regular soloist at various churches through these years. He was a member of the American Association of University Professors, National Association of Teachers of Singing and the American Philatelic Society.

A specialist in oratorio, Ira was tenor soloist in practically all of the leading oratorios performed by leading choral groups, choral societies, symphony orchestras, colleges, universities and churches throughout the United States and Europe, including Bach’s “St. John” and “St. Matthew” Passions (58 performances), “Mass in B Minor,” “Magnificat,” and “Christmas Oratorio,” Haydn’s “Creation,” Beethoven’s “Ninth Symphony,” Handel’s “Messiah” (90 performances as tenor and countertenor soloist, Mendelssohn’s “Elijah” and “St. Paul,” Mozart’s “Requiem,” and Carl Orff’s “Carmina Burana.”

Ira appeared as soloist numerous times in the Southwest with symphony orchestras and ensembles such as the New Orleans Philharmonic, San Antonio Symphony, Dallas Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony, Lubbock Symphony, Wichita Falls Symphony, Midland- Odessa Symphony, Abilene Philharmonic, New Mexico Symphony, San Angelo Symphony, the Texas Baroque Ensemble, the Texas Bach Choir, The Texas Boys Choir, El Paso Pro Musica, and the Fort Worth Schola Cantorum. He has also sung several roles with the San Antonio Opera, appearing in productions with such well-known singers as Beverly Sills, Richard Tucker and Birgit Nilsson.

Ira’s love for music began as a young teen with his first voice lesson with Myrtle Dunn. He enjoyed world travel, especially in the Orient, World War II history, reading about the lives of great composers and was a connoisseur of classical music. He loved every one of his voice students and was so very proud of their accomplishments and contributions in life.

Schantz was preceeded in death by one brother, Gerald Schantz of Lubbock, Texas and two sisters, Gertrude Caplan of Port St. Lucie, Florida and Gladys Schantz or El Paso, Texas.

He is survived by his unofficially adopted son and family, Alan E, Paula, Zachary and Jacob Johnson of Rogers, AR; Nephew, Lamar Schantz of Conroe, Texas; nieces Linda Hammack of Leavenworth, Kansas and Susan Garcia of Port St. Lucie, Florida; two grand nieces and one grandnephew; and dear friends Charles W. Nelson of Abilene, TX, Charles Cleneay of Houston, TX and Cathy Engelkes of Fairfield Bay, AR.

Ira grew up going to and singing in church, but it wasn't until 1978 that he fully committed his life to Jesus Christ. From that time on he was a faithful member of the Wedgwood Church of the Nazarene in Fort Worth and most recently at Peace Lutheran Church in Fairfield Bay, Arkansas. He was loved by all for his charm, wit and inspiration.

A memorial service was held at Apple Blossom Independent Living Center on March 20, 2014. At the service friends heard stories from Ira’s life and listened to a number of recordings of Ira singing.

The inscription that Ira requested to be written on his head stone summarizes his heart and life: “God alone matters; all else is nothing!”
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TCU JAZZ FESTIVAL
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Photo by Land Pederson