

Shocker Sounds

2018 / Volume 1 / Issue 1



MEET THE NEW DIRECTOR

FACULTY NEWS

Features

ALUMNI

GRADUATES

HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

STUDENT SUCCESSES

WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR

Getting to Know the New Director, Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn

"Shocker Sounds" will feature articles written by my colleagues and the students of Wichita State's School of Music. The authors' insights, reflections, and news will help keep you informed about the artistry and unique educational opportunities at the school. But for my inaugural column, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself as the new director of the School of Music.

If I had to describe High School Freshmen Aleks I would use these four words.

1. Smart
2. Weird
3. Extroverted
4. Directionless

The summer of my freshmen year, I was fixing some grades for some classes that didn't go as well as one would hope, and that's where I met Kristin. She was smart, extroverted, and a trumpet player. I instantly fell in love (or whatever the high school freshmen

equivalent is).

After talking throughout summer school, she convinced me I should join marching band and go on tour with them to Canada because "Anyone can play a bass drum!".

So with a minimal amount of knowledge about music, I walked to office of the music teacher, Steve Accatino, and asked him if I could join the marching band. Somehow in a rather large school my directionless reputation had already reached him. However he acquiesced and I was in.

One week prior to school starting we had band camp, and I was surrounded by 70 or so kids ready to march. I was surrounded by Honors students, average students, and the not so great students. Students who would go on to be doctors, lawyers, artists, stay-at-home parents and everything in between; and for the first time I really felt like I belonged.

Music and teaching would

become my passion, and it would lead me through a successful high school career, a bachelors degree, a masters degree, and a doctorate.

Now, whenever I am somewhere talking about the arts and their importance in our society I think back to those 70 kids and I remember these two things:

- 1) My story is not unique, and you will find kids like me all over the country.
- 2) The arts welcomes everyone, free from judgment, and if you're lost, you just might find your place.



FACULTY

Retirements, new hires and summer activities

FACULTY AWARDED TENURE

Dr. Michael Hanawalt
Alan Held
Dr. David Hunsicker
Dr. Kelly St. Pierre

RETIREMENTS

Russ Widener, Director of the School of Music and Professor of Trombone, retired after 37 years, eight as Director. During his time at WSU Widener was a member of the Brass Quintet, performed with the Wichita Symphony Orchestra as principal trombone, and continues to perform with Music Theatre



Wichita. Russ and his wife, Maggie, plan to travel to visit with their children and grandchildren, who can be found around the country. Russ will not be a stranger on campus, he will continue to be an avid member of the audience for concerts and recitals!

Judith Fear, instructor of piano retired after 50 years on campus! While a student at WSU Judith began teaching class piano and private lessons. Throughout her career she has inspired a multitude of piano students who have gone on to foster the love of piano in their students. Judith and her husband, Larry, will spend time with their two children and granddaughter, and continue to enjoy the gift of music by attending music events at WSU and the Wichita Symphony Orchestra.



THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

The School of Music wishes to express its thanks to our faculty whose paths have taken them to other opportunities.

Geoffrey Deibel, Assistant Professor of Saxophone and Jazz, has taken a position at Florida State University as Assistant Professor of Saxophone.



Instructor of Clarinet, **David Cook**, will be joining the faculty at Millikin University as Assistant Professor of Clarinet and will become Principal Clarinet for the Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra.



NEW ROLES

Director, **Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn**

Associate Director, **Michael Hanawalt**

Graduate Coordinator, **Timothy Shade**

WELCOME NEW FACULTY AND INSTRUCTORS

David MacDonald will be joining the WSU School of Music as an Emergency One Year Hire, as Assistant Professor, to teach Composition, Theory and Music Technology.



James Pisano is also an Emergency One Year Hire as Assistant Professor of Saxophone and Director of Jazz Arts.

Lucas Hulett, Spring 2018 graduate and Shocker Sound director, will lead the new Shocker Sound Machine into its first year.



Clarinetist **Rachelle Goter** will be teaching clarinet and Aural Skills for the 2018-2019 school year.

Renee Macdonald, graduate of WSU's voice program, will return to campus to teach voice.



Faith O'Neal will be teaching harp and Music Appreciation.

Andrew Slater has been hired to teach during Gerald Scholl's sabbatical this fall.



Recent graduate **Ai Guo** will be leading multiple sections of class piano.

HOW THEY KEPT BUSY THIS SUMMER

Canta in Italia

Eleven students, five from WSU, participated in WSU's Canta in Italia program during the month of June. **Pina Mozzani** led the program. **Alan Held** spent a few days away from his performances in Vienna to attend Canta and led the students in masterclasses. They welcomed retired faculty **Marie King** as stage director for the productions. See page 8 for experiences from two students who participated in the summer program.

Summer Kodaly Program

Elaine Bernstorf and **Steve Oare** held the 14th annual, two week intensive Kodaly Certification program at WSU. A number of teachers earned their certification.

- ▶ 28 earned Level 1
- ▶ 12 earned Level 2
- ▶ 18 earned Level 3

During the one week Treble Camp, 41 students, ages 10-17, had the opportunity to improve their vocal skills.

Elaine Bernstorf and music alumnus, Amanda Vanausdall, were selected for two presentations at the International Society of Music Education (ISME) Commission on Special Music Education and Music Therapy in Salzburg, Austria, July 12-14. Bernstorf and Vanausdall presented spoken papers *Tuning the Eye, Sharpening the Ear*, and *Layers of Learning Across the Lifespan*. Their sessions were invited to be papers for the proceeding publication by the Commission. Ms. Vanausdall teaches in USD 259 and is co-chair for Special Needs for the Kansas Music Educators Association.



Alan Held, Director of Opera/Associate Professor of Voice, Ann and Dennis Ross Faculty of Distinction in Opera, has had a very busy last few months while singing Kurwenal in *Tristan und Isolde* with the Cleveland Orchestra as part of their centennial season. He then traveled to Vienna, Austria to sing Caspar in a new production of *Der Freischütz* at The Vienna State Opera. He sang a concert of highlights from Wagner's *Ring of the Nibelungen* with the National Symphony Orchestra at Wolf Trap, served as a clinician and soloist at the Wagner Institute of the Miami Music Festival, and gave a master class



and private coaching sessions at WSU's "Canta in Italia" program in Lucca, Italy.

School of Music piano technician, **Dr. Roy Howard**, is the president of

AMLuthiers, an international foundation dedicated to training individuals for musical instrument repair. This summer saw the launch of the DIM project (Donation of Instruments for Music), with current collection points in Michigan and Kansas, and more to come.

Beneficiaries include countries in the Caribbean and South America. Donated instruments are processed by local technicians who deliver them to the users, who commit to regular maintenance. Thus, the instruments have long term care, and the technicians have regular customers. For more information: www.amluthiers.org/donar/dimenglish.



David Hunsicker continued to be busy with the launch of the Trumpet Gapper(TM) and performing in the pit for the summer productions of Music Theatre Wichita.



Carmen Lemoine, Assistant

Professor of Flute was on the faculty at Sequoia Chamber Music Workshop in Arcata, California in June and in July and August Lemoine was with the New Hampshire Music Festival in Plymouth, New Hampshire.



Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn participated in the Harvard program: Art and Practice of Leadership and was on

the faculty for the summer pre-session Leadership in Self/Society at Wichita Stat University.

SHOCKER SOUND MACHINE

Shocker Spirit on the March!

What is **Shocker Sound Machine**? It is a fast-moving, high-energy, loud-and-proud marching band you don't want to miss. It will be a movement-based ensemble that will incorporate traditional and contemporary techniques for movement and sound. This is not your traditional marching band.

Just as Shocker Sound, Shocker Sound Machine is open to **any** WSU student. This year watch for Shocker Sound at women's volleyball games and men's and women's basketball. Shocker Sound Machine will make its premiere at select men's and women's basketball games and university functions this academic year. For information and updates [CLICK HERE](#).

The School of Music would like to acknowledge **President John Bardo** and administration for approving this new venture! Thank you to Director of Bands, **Dr. Timothy Shade, Russ Widener**, former Director, School of Music and **Dr. Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn**, Director, School of Music for their innovative work!

*What a wonderful time to be a Shocker
in the School of Music*



For more information visit:

www.wichita.edu/bands

or contact:

Dr. Timothy Shade, Director of Bands



UNDERGRADUATES

Fall 2017

Tyler Axe, Bachelor of Music Education
Anni Dong, Bachelor of Music
Madeline Harder Crawford, Bachelor of Music Education and Bachelor of Music Performance
Anastasia McPeck, Bachelor of Music Performance
Jessica Perez, Bachelor of Music Performance
Jia Win Teh, Bachelor of Music Performance

Spring 2018

Joel Andrews, Bachelor of Music
Isabella Bond, Bachelor of Music
Steven Brown, Bachelor of Music
Kathleen Crandall, Bachelor of Music Performance
Harrison Goertz, Bachelor of Music Performance
Jackson Graham, Bachelor of Music Performance
Taylor Moseley, Bachelor of Music
Denver Ridgway, Bachelor of Music Performance
Dawn Sauer, Bachelor of Music Education
Stephanie Shelden, Bachelor of Music Performance-Instrumental and Voice
Jeremy Thomas, Bachelor of Music Education
Gabrielle Wiens, Bachelor of Music Education

GRADUATES

Fall 2017

Craig Sanphy, Music Performance
Kelsey Wise, Piano Pedagogy

Spring and Summer 2018

Daniel Bardan Lamadrid, Music Performance
David Deiter, Music Performance
Kaitlin Exline, Music Special Education
Maria Jose Fabara Jacome, Opera Performance
Aaron Fisher, Music Performance
Ai Guo, Piano Pedagogy
Mickey Hansen, Music Performance
Andrew Hayse, Choral Music
Robert Hess, Music Performance
Lucas Hulett, Music Performance
Meredith Jenkins, Music Performance
Lisa Johnson, Music Education
Abigail Karnes, Opera Performance
Bobby Kitchen, Music Performance
Zihao Lu, Choral Music
Stephanie Nelson, Music Performance
Aaren Rivard, Opera Performance
Bobbi Rubeck, Instrumental Conducting
Jeremy Samuel, Music Performance
Keysto Stotz, Instrumental Conducting
Sable Stout, Opera Performance
Taylor Stucky, Music Performance

The School of Music is very fortunate to have many accomplished alums, we have provided here a few to brag about!

Let us know about you here.

Alums

Ivalah Allen (BME1981) (MM1986)

Voice. Associate Professor of Vocal Studies Fort Hays State University, professional soloist and recitalist.

Rachel Carlson (MME) Collaborative pianist at University Northern Colorado, Greeley.

Shawn Chastain (BME1991) (MME1996)

Piano. Voice, Wichita Public Schools, Executive Coordinator for Fine Arts.

Nathan DePoint (MM2006) Director of Operations, Austin Opera.

Weslev DeSpain (BME1983) (MME1984) (MM2007)

Clarinet. WSU Interim Director of Orchestras 2004-2006: University of Oklahoma Civic Orchestra conductor 2007-2010: Derby High School Orchestra Director: Friends University Community Orchestra conductor 2010-2014: Delano Chamber Orchestra conductor since 2011: Wichita Symphony Repertory Orchestra conductor since 2014; KMEA All-State Orchestra chair 2015-2017.

Jovce DiDonato

Voice. Metropolitan Opera, Covent Garden, La Scala.

Sarah Fraser (BM2007) Associate Artist Manager, Fletcher Artist Management.

Rachelle Goter (BME1994) (MM2010)

Clarinet, Adjunct Professor of Clarinet at Friends University and member of the faculty Tower Woodwind Quintet, Adjunct Professor of Clarinet at WSU and member of the Lieurance Woodwind Quintet for the 2018-2019 academic year, member of Wichita Symphony Orchestra, Kansas Bandmasters Association recipient of the 2000 Outstanding Young Band Director Award

Dana Hamant (BME1978) (MME1983)

Trumpet, retired music teacher of Wichita Public Schools, Assistant Director of Bands at Friends University, and recipient of the Kansas Bandmasters Association 2014 Outstanding Band Director, recipient of the 2012-2013 National Federation of State High School Association's Outstanding Music Educator award. Working with Kansas Music Educators Association and the Kansas Ambassadors of Music.

Alan Held (MM) Metropolitan Opera, Covent Garden, La Scala, Associate Professor of Music, Area Director Opera, Wichita State University.

Jerry Juhnke (BME, MM1968-1972)

Bass Trombone, Private Wealth Advisor, Board member Wichita Symphony Society, President WSU's Music Associates.

Edwin Livingston (BM1996)

Bass, Adjunct Instructor of Jazz Studies at USC Thornton School of Music, his career as a performer takes him on many tours and into the recording studio.

William Mathis (BME1986) Trombone, Dean of the College of Musical Arts at Bowling Green State University.

Michael Powell (BM1973)

Trombone, member, American Brass Quintet, principal, Orchestra of St. Luke's; and faculty member of The Juilliard School, the Aspen Music School, SUNY Stony Brook.

Samuel Ramey (BM) Metropolitan Opera, Covent Garden, La Scala, Distinguished Professor of Opera, Wichita State University.

Ann Marie Stanley (BM1991) (MM1993)

Oboe, Associate Professor of Music Education at Louisiana State University.

Mark Wait (BM1971)

Piano, Dean of the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University.

Jeffrey Whaley (MM2008) Horn, Principal Horn, Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, Asheville Symphony Orchestra and Symphony of the Mountains, all in Tennessee.

Matt Wilson (BM1986) Drums, leads the Matt Wilson Quartet, Arts and Crafts, Christmas Tree-O and the Carl Sandburg Project, he lives in New York.

Brian Yeakley (BM2012) Tenor, performing with Houston Grand Opera, Wolf Trap Opera, Glimmerglass Opera and Wichita Grand Opera.



Students and faculty, June 2018.

FROM THE STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

By Abigail Karnes

Canta in Italia was truly a life changing experience for me. This program provides professional training in an authentic setting that allows instruction both inside the classroom and outside into the community every moment of my day. Classroom language lessons became an authentic learning experience when applied to conversations with baristas, neighbors, and native musicians. Interactions with students and instructors created professional networking opportunities that will extend beyond the program's time frame. I grew personally and artistically by living in the culture that created my art form.

Interacting with people for whom opera was a cultural folk element helped me understand that opera remains a significant and relevant art form today. One of my favorite aspects of the program was how much of the language I was immersed in. Between my daily Italian lessons and interacting with the local people I was able to learn enough of the language to explore Lucca and other cities without needing a translator. By the end of the month, I felt like I had learned enough Italian to make my way around town asking directions and having some conversation with locals. This understanding of the language also bled over into

By Madison Roths

Ciao! Mi chiamo Madison. Sono studentessa alla Wichita State University, e ho viaggiato di recente in Italia attraverso il programma, di **Canta in Italia**. Hi! My name is Madison. I'm a student at Wichita State University, and I recently traveled to Italy through the **Canta in Italia** program.

My favorite part of this study abroad program was getting the chance to explore Lucca like a local. Since I lived there for an entire month, I had time to find the locals' favorite restaurants, shops, and recreational places. The wall surrounding the city is an integral part of Lucchesi culture and biking around it truly made me feel like part of the community! My apartment building stood outside of a cathedral, a pizza and panini shop, and a fruit store. Every morning between Italian and Scene class I bought a peach at the little fruit store. The woman who owned the shop quickly gave me a nickname: la pesca ragazza- the peach girl! By the end of the first week, I knew enough Italian to have a conversation with her. I found out that her name is Paula, and we talked about the amazing opportunities the **Canta** program provides. I made a friend in Italy, and I owe that

HOW CAN YOU HELP SUPPORT OUR MUSIC STUDENTS?

AWARDS

Scholarships and awards are made possible by generous donations from our alumni and friends. These funds help prepare our students for the 21st century!

SPRING 2018 STUDENT AWARDS

School of Music Director Russ Widener awarded the Spring 2018 Student Awards during the final concert on April 29.

Joanne Goodman Award

Adrienna Basic, French horn

Lieurance Junior Awards

Megan Plantz, Guitar

Ada May, Voice,

Lieurance Senior Award

Stephanie Shelden, Cello and Voice,

Presser Award

Johannon Rucker, Voice

KONRAD WOLFF-ISLE BING CHAMBER MUSIC AWARDS 2018

First Prize - Meadowlark Saxophone Quartet

Robert Hess, Tyler Burgess, Bobby Kitchen, Christopher Agnew

Geoffrey Deibel, coach

Second Prize - Ann Walenta String Quartet

Addison Wegerle, Leah Rosales, Joseph Schmitt, Daijana Wallace

Catherine Consiglio, coach

Third Prize - Perimeter Saxophone Quartet

Cody Adams, Tyler Frueh, Lisa Johnson, Joe Richey

Geoffrey Deibel, coach

ASPEN MUSIC FESTIVAL AWARD

Krystin Skidmore, Voice

CANTA IN ITALIA, Voice Scholarships

Logan Barat

Abigail Karnes

Ashleigh Burrow

Madison Roths

Amira Coleman

GIFTS

You are invited to join others in supporting the education of our talented music students. Your donation will support student scholarships, guest artists and purchases that will enable us to stay competitive. You may donate to any of these funds listed here or inquire on how to start a scholarship. All gifts are welcome.

Patrons of Music

Music Associates

WSU Band Support Fund

Music Student Enrichment Fund for Orchestra

Jazz Arts Support Fund

Choral Activities

Voice Study Abroad

String Improvisation Fund

Clarinet Fund

Organ Recital Fund

Band Instrument Repair Fund

MAKING YOUR GIFT

Every gift makes a difference. Please be as generous as you are able.

GIVE BY CHECK

Please make your check payable to WSU, note the fund name on the memo line and send to:

School of Music

1845 Fairmount, Box 53

Duerksen Fine Arts Center

Wichita, KS 67260

GIVE ON LINE

www.wichita.edu/foundation

For any questions about giving, please contact Ann Marie Siegwarth at the WSU Foundation, 316-978-3945.

WITH YOUR HELP WE WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE STUDENTS AND FACULTY WITH THE FOLLOWING.

THANK YOU!

MUSIC ASSOCIATES

- ▶ Students to attend a trumpet conference at Pittsburg State University, October 2017
- ▶ Students to attend a saxophone conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, March 2018
- ▶ Travel for pianist, Dingyuan Zhang, to perform a masterclass and recital, October 2017
- ▶ Provided \$47,500 in scholarships to music majors

VELMA WALLACE SCHOOL OF MUSIC SUPPORT FUND

- ▶ Provided funds for faculty member, David Hunsicker, to perform at the trumpet conference in Oklahoma, January 2018
- ▶ Purchase of a monitor and computer for the conference room

DEE ANN BROWN ENDOWED PIANO FUND

- ▶ Assisted towards the purchase of a used Steinway B piano

PATRONS OF MUSIC

- ▶ Retirement reception for Russ Widener and Judith Fear
- ▶ Provided funding to send the Concert Chorale and Wind Ensemble on tour
- ▶ Majority of cost for Steinway B piano
- ▶ Student to participate at the 2108 Kansas Intercollegiate Orchestra, February 2018
- ▶ Partial payment for Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn to attend the Harvard Program, Art and Leadership Development
- ▶ Allowed Opera Theater to hire two soloists for the spring production of *The Marriage of Figaro*
- ▶ Purchase of a French horn to be used by a graduate student
- ▶ Purchase of an Elmo MX 1 Visual Presenter for the Music Education area

JC COMBS PERCUSSION SUPPORT FUND

- ▶ Provided an honorarium for the three guest pianists who joined the WSU Concert Chorale, A Cappella Choir and Impulse Percussion Group on the April 29 performance of Igor Stravinsky's *Les Noces* and Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*

STEEL BAND

- ▶ New mallets
- ▶ Guest artist, Brian Mueller, for the November 2018 Impulse Percussion Group concert

VERNON McCART RESTORATION FUND

- ▶ Restoration of the Steinway piano in Miller Concert Hall

ASPEN MUSIC FESTIVAL AND SCHOOL

- ▶ Paid a portion of tuition for a graduate voice student to attend the summer festival

DON AND PAT HYSKO RAINY DAY STRINGS FUND

- ▶ Assisted a string major with repairs to viola



In February 2018, the **WSU Concert Chorale**, led by **Dr. Michael Hanawalt**, embarked on a three-day high school recruiting tour to the Kansas City and Lawrence areas. The ensemble sang for eight of the top high school choral programs in the state, including Shawnee Mission West, Lee's Summit West, Blue Valley Northwest, Shawnee Mission South, Olathe South, Blue Valley North, Lawrence Free State, and Lawrence High.

Each visit featured a twenty-minute performance for the high school students during which WSU students talked up all of the great reasons to consider WSU for music studies. Additionally, each high school choir sang a couple of pieces for the members of Concert Chorale and the high school and college students combined to sing a favorite from the All-State choir repertoire.

It was a wonderful few days for camaraderie building, friend making, and spreading the WSU gospel. Additionally, taking in a show at the Kauffmann Center for Performing Arts and having dinner at Bucca di Beppo on the plaza rounded out the great time had by all!



The **WSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble** was invited to perform at the College Band Directors National Association 2018 Southwestern Division Conference on March 22, in Houston. Students and faculty departed Duerksen Fine Arts Center on March 21 and presented a recruiting concert at Bixby (OK) High School before arriving in Houston. A short detour to Dallas allowed them to perform at Booker T. Washington School for the Performing Arts before arriving back in Wichita late that evening.

Directed by **Dr. Timothy Shade**, faculty members **Dr. Dean Roush** and **Zachary Hague** also performed with the ensemble. School of Music Director Russ Widener represented the administration.



The School of Music will host the 2018 Mid-South Horn Workshop, on October 12-14, presented by **Assistant Professor Jeb Wallace**. The workshop will feature a variety of performances, master classes, and lectures presented by a diverse lineup of Featured and Contributing Artists. Participants will hear concerts that showcase the lyricism and virtuosity of the horn, participate in discussions about horn history and pedagogy, and have the opportunity to test horns and accessories from a variety of vendors from throughout the country.

Featured Artists will be **Eli Epstein**, New England Conservatory and Veteran Second horn, Cleveland Orchestra, **Amy Jo Rhine**, Third horn, Los Angeles Philharmonic, **Alex Shuhan**, Ithaca College, and **Jeff Stockham**, jazz soloist. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).



Banda Hispanica

FALL 2018 ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

September 20

Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. MCH
Andrea Banke, faculty oboist

October 2

Wind Ensemble at 7:30 p.m. MCH

October 3

Banda Hispanica and Jazz Arts 1 at 7:30 p.m. MCH

October 4

Guitar Ensemble, Jazz Combo , and Jazz Arts 2
at 7:30 p.m. MCH

October 8

Symphonic Band at 7:30 p.m. MCH

October 9

A Cappella Choir and Concert Chorale at 7:30 p.m. WRH

October 11

Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. MCH
Concerto-Aria Honors Concert

October 18

Women's Glee Club and Madrigal Singers at 7:30 p.m.
WRH

November 2

Opera Theater at 7:30 p.m. MCH
Street Scene by Kurt Weill

November 4

Opera Theater at 2:00 p.m. MCH
Street Scene by Kurt Weill

November 6

Wind Ensemble at 7:30 p.m. MCH

November 18

Impulse Percussion Group at 7:30 p.m. MCH

November 19

Symphonic Band at 7:30 p.m. MCH

November 27

Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. MCH
Holiday Pops Concert

November 28

Banda Hispanica and Jazz Arts 1 at 7:30 p.m. MCH

November 29

Guitar Ensemble, Jazz Combo , and Jazz Arts 2
at 7:30 p.m. MCH

November 30 and December 1

Candlelight Concert at 7:30 p.m. WRH

December 2

Candlelight Concert at 4:00 p.m. WRH

MCH=Miller Concert Hall in Duerksen Fine Arts Center

WRH=Wiedemann Recital Hall

VISIT www.wichita.edu/fineartsboxoffice for ticket information.



Krystin Skidmore singing "Let it Go" at the World Premiere of "Disney Animations Studios: A Decade in Concert" under the baton of Richard Kaufman.

Photo by Elle Logan

ASPEN SUMMER EXPERIENCE

My name is **Krystin Skidmore** and I am completing my Master's Degree in Opera Performance at Wichita State University. This summer, as a **Michael Powell Aspen Fund** recipient, I had the opportunity to study and perform at the 2018 Aspen Music Festival and School (AMFS) as a member of the Aspen Opera Center (AOC).

The AMFS is an eight week training program with a strong emphasis on performance; this season there were over 400 music events. My entire summer was filled with opportunities to make music, performing everything from the alto solo in Bach's Christmas Oratorio to the popular hit *Let it Go* in the World Premiere of "Walt Disney Animation Studios: A Decade in Concert." I performed in three opera scene master classes with Aspen Opera Center director, Edward Berkeley, and one master class with Federico Cortese. In mid-July I sang Ravel's *Deux mélodies hébraïques* on the guest recital of world-renowned pianist, Orli Shaham. All of these performance opportunities were

amazing, and the rehearsal time was extremely rewarding. As a student, I had daily classes, coachings, lessons, and rehearsals led by industry professionals such as Elizabeth Bucerri, Joshua Winograde, Elizabeth Hynes, and William Billingham. Having the chance to collaborate with and receive feedback from professional musicians is invaluable for a young artist.

The greatest lesson I have learned this summer is that successful artists take risks, whether that means programming a recital of new music, exploring a new interpretation of a standard work, auditioning for a high profile performance, or simply volunteering to be publicly critiqued in a master class. I feel very fortunate to have spent my summer at the AMFS where I could not only take risks of my own, but also learn from the artistic choices of my peers and mentors. This has been such an enriching summer and I cannot wait to implement all that I have learned in the Wichita State University Opera Theater 2018-2019 season!

MUSIC ASSOCIATES

GIFTS RECEIVED JULY 1, 2017-JUNE 30, 2018

MAESTRO

(\$1,000 +)

Dr. and Mrs. Phillip M. Allen
Mr. Michael J. Bayouth
Mr. Joseph E. Borlase
Mr. and Mrs. William DeVore
Mr. and Mrs. Joe D. Emery
Mr. Stephen English
Mr. Justus H. Fugate
Mr. and Mrs. E. Stanley Guyer
Mrs. Carolyn K. Harner
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Held
Ms. Mary L. Herrin
Ms. Julia I. Hoppes
Drs. Daniel and Martha
Housholder
Mr. and Mrs. Jerald R. Juhnke
Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Kubik
Ms. Ernee L. McGuire
Ms. Jane C. McHugh
Mr. and Mrs. Russell W. Meyer, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. David D. Mitchell
Mr. Stev Overstreet
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Ramey
Dr. Martha and Mr. R. K. Shawver
Dr. David L. Stagg
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Starch
Dr. Helen W. Stone-Rogers
Mrs. Kathe Decker Thompson
Mrs. Betty Wood

GUEST ARTIST

(\$500 to \$999)

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Banks
Mr. and Mrs. Richard B.
Campbell
Mr. Casey and Dr. Sylvia Coats
Mr. and Mrs. David A. Crawford
Dr. and Mrs. Harold G. Glidden
Mr. and Mrs. Glen M. Goering
Ms. Harriet A. Hickman
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth L. Hull
Mr. Joseph A. Johnson
Mrs. Anita L. Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Fredric A. Kerr
Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Klocke
Dr. and Mrs. Jerald W. Leisy, M.D.
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Mathis
Ms. Ruth Ann Messner
Mr. and Mrs. Belden F. Mills
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Mr. and Mrs. James D. Senseney
Mrs. Dorothy S. Shannon
Trinity Surgical Instrumentation
LLC

Mr. and Mrs. David L. Waldie
Dr. Douglas Woolley

CONCERTMASTER

(\$300 to \$499)

Mr. David and Dr. Elaine
Bernstorf
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis A. Danders
Dr. and Mrs. James W. Deskins
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Freeman
Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Frutiger
Mr. Gary D. Harms
Mr. and Mrs. Howard N. Marcus
Dr. Kenneth G. Miller
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Osborne
Dr. and Mrs. Neal J. Pfeiffer
Mr. and Mrs. Dan P. Unruh

SOLOIST

(\$200 to \$299)

Mrs. Anna Anderson and
Mr. Chris Shank
Anonymous
Dr. and Mrs. Royal E. Bales
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Blackerby
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Boesen
Dr. and Mrs. Harrison C.
Boughton
Lori Kiinani Bullock
Dr. William M. Cory
Dr. and Mrs. David D. Crane
Dr. and Mrs. Alan J. Fearey
Mr. and Mrs. John Flakes
Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Fleeman
Ms. Diane A. Gjerstad
Mr. Dana D. Hamant
Ms. Barbara Hansen
Mr. Duane K. Harms
Dr. Elizabeth H. and
Mr. Donald L. King
Dr. and Mrs. Mark A. Laycock
Mr. Jerry P. Martin
Mr. Denis M. McRae
Mr. James G. Mintern
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Morse
Dr. Richard Muma and
Mr. Richard Case
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald D. Myers
Dr. and Mrs. Walter J. Myers
Mr. Bob and Mrs. Linda Nugent
Mr. Kirk P. Postier
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Reinhold
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Rives
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Wine

PRINCIPAL

(\$100 to \$199)

Mr. and Mrs. David Abel
Mr. and Mrs. K. C. "Buck" Alley
Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. Bachus
Mr. and Mrs. Glen F. Chambers

Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. Chesser
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Cohen, Jr.
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CONTACT US

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Newsletter Editor: Anne Marie Brown



**WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
School of Music



ALUMNI RECEPTION

Thursday, October 11 in conjunction with
the Concerto-Aria Honors Concert

The School of Music would like to invite you to a special reception for alumni and prospective students on October 11th. This reception will take place from 6:00-7:00 p.m., just prior to the WSU School of Music Concerto-Aria Honors Concert. The WSU Symphony Orchestra will present this annual concert spotlighting student soloists in Miller Concert Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Please RSVP, by October 1, for you and a guest to receive entrance to the reception as well as two complimentary tickets to that evenings concert. [Click here to RSVP](#). More information will be sent about the reception and how to pick up your concert tickets.

We hope to see you there!

my scene performances. By having a practical understanding of the language I was able to turn my attention to other aspects of singing and I felt my performance strengthen.

Daily voice lessons significantly impacted my professional growth through **Canta in Italia**. While in school I see my instructor once or twice a week, but having additional coachings lessons and made faster progress in my while covering more repertoire than I can work with at home. I also had the incredible opportunity to study Italian opera with native Italian coaches, and their knowledge base of the language, composition and performance history helped me understand the text and characters more completely.



Abigail Karnes

Additionally, I also felt a tremendous amount of personal growth during my month studying in Lucca. Living in another country and experiencing life as a local is an eye opening experience. Italian culture is much more relaxed and emphasizes experience over material things. I enjoyed sharing their culture, music, and food alongside them. Some of my favorite memories include interactions practicing my Italian in my favorite coffee shop or discussing the local night life with my landlady. The Italian teachers from the Koine Center took us to their favorite local restaurants and showed us the daily way of life in Lucca.

My time in Italy taught me to take the time to enjoy life and narrow my focus to complete one task at a time. There is always more work to do, and I would love to return to **Canta in Italia** next summer to continue my studies, but for now I can say my understanding of the Italian language and opera has developed tremendously and I know I am better prepared for the profession because of my time at **Canta in Italia**.

entirely to the amazing faculty who continue to make this trip possible.

With every coaching, lesson, and scene rehearsal, I learned more about the history of music, opera technique, and "the business". I had an intense revelation about the depth of the research truly or scene as be I gathered practice,

techniques continue to the states. made rehearsals make



Madison Roths

required to perform a song it was meant to be performed, and research, and performance that I will hone here in Progress was quickly: daily required me to strong musical decisions and be consistent with any changes made. **Canta** faculty kept students on our toes, giving us new challenges every day, and I found that being surrounded by a group of such strong, high-energy, talented musicians was incredible motivation to continue to grow as a performer and musician myself.

Each weekend offered a chance to explore new, gorgeous parts of Italy. Some weekend excursions were a scheduled part of the trip (Verona and Florence), and others were adventures that the other students and I planned with the help of the Italian faculty (Cinque Terre, Viareggio, Rome, Pistoia, and Venice). Witnessing a magnificent opera at the Arena de Verona, hiking through the mountains of Tuscany, eating the best sandwich of your life just outside of an underground museum...Opportunities to make fantastic memories were around every corner.

Combine immersion into Italian culture, intense Operatic studies, and incredible sightseeing opportunities and you get **Canta in Italia**: a truly life-changing experience!