

December 2003 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

University Open Houses

Monday, February 16, 2004 (President's Day)

Friday, April 9, 2004 (Spring Vacation)

The Midwest Clinic

December 16-20, 2003

We'll be in booth #322 in the Southeast Hall

Please note this is different than the booth number printed in the booklet!

IMEA

January 28-31, 2004

We'll be in booths 416/417

See you there!

SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITION DATES

Formal audition dates for Fall 2004 entrance to the School of Music are:

Friday, February 13, 2004

Saturday, February 14, 2004

Friday, March 19, 2004

Saturday, March 20, 2004

Auditions for violin (performance), viola, cello, bass, organ, jazz piano, and guitar are by private appointment only. Please contact Lynn Slater at 815-753-1546 or e-mail her at lslater@niu.edu for assistance. All audition repertoire can be found at our website: <http://www.vpa.niu.edu/music>

Auditions for Spring 2004 semester are also on a private basis. Please contact Lynn Slater for details.

High School Music Events

The School of Music is once again offering many events for high school music groups and individuals:

Friday, February 6, Jazz Day, for all jazz bands

Wednesday, February 18, Women's Chorus Day, for women's choirs

Tuesday, March 16, Jazz Combo Day, for individual jazz players

For more information about the above high school days, call the Office of External Programs, College of Visual and Performing Arts, at (815) 753-1450 or e-mail director Deborah Booth at dbooth@niu.edu.

Monday, February 23, Concert Band Festival, Day 1

Tuesday, February 24, Concert Band Festival, Day 2

Tuesday, March 2, Concert Band Festival, Day 3

For more information regarding the Concert Band Festivals, please contact Margarite Ortega at 815-753-7978 or pegortega@niu.edu.

UPCOMING ON-CAMPUS FACULTY & STUDENT RECITALS/CONCERTS

Most concerts and recitals are located in the Music Building on Lucinda Avenue on the campus of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois and (unless otherwise indicated) are free and open to the public. For up-to-date listings, check our website: <http://www.niu.edu/music> or the University Website calendar: <http://www.niucalendar.niu.edu/>

December

12/7 Holiday Concert, Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, University Chorus, 3 p.m., Concert Hall, \$7.00 adults, \$5.00 students. Contact Lynn Slater to reserve tickets: 815-753-1546 or lslater@niu.edu.

FACULTY NEWS

The Vermeer Quartet just finished a November concert tour that took them to Spain, England, Switzerland, and Holland. Other Vermeer "highlights" prior to Christmas include concerts in California and Washington D.C. (at the Kennedy Center). In early 2004 they will have concerts in Phoenix, Philadelphia, and Chicago, plus installments of "Beethoven cycles" (the complete Beethoven string quartets) in Buffalo and Cleveland.

Myron Myers will be teaching a new summer course in Vienna, Austria: The German Song Text Workshop for Solo Singers (Acting the German Song). Participants will work with two fine Viennese actors to find acted interpretations of song texts before they sing, resulting in better personal connections with the text and the music. The actors are from the theater group Stadt Theater Wien. The coach/accompanist, the musical analyst, and the diction coach are all from the University of Vienna. www.germansongtext.com is the website.

Robert Fleisher's TWO PRAIRIE SONGS (2003), settings of texts by Carl Sandburg for soprano and piano (premiered at NIU in March by Diane

Ragains and William Goldenberg) were performed on November 7 during the Society of Composers conference hosted by Stetson University in DeLand, Florida.

Ted Hatmaker wrote the liner notes for Mary Stolper's new recording, "Chicago Duos for Flute," available on Cedille Records. The recording features the music of numerous Chicago composers in various settings for flute and another instrument.

Janet Hathaway presented a paper at the annual meeting of the American Musicological Society in Houston on Nov. 14. The topic of the paper was the villancico and devotional music in mid-17th-century Madrid. Hathaway has been invited to prepare the paper for publication in a volume devoted to the villancico. Her article on the villancico and Inquisition censure in 17th-century Madrid will appear in December in Acta musicologica.

Fareed Haque provided the original score for Stuart Flack's new play, Homeland Security, which played at the Victory Gardens from October 16 through November 25. The highlight of the past few weeks have been gigs with Summit in Spain and Istanbul, the Fareed Haque Group at High Sierra Music Festival (sit-ins there with Keller Williams, New Monsoon, Karl Denson and others), and a nice trio gig/workshop with John Scofield and Kalyan Pathak.

Fareed has always been inspired and educated by the music of John Scofield, and jamming with him was really, really fun! Thanks for all the intelligent and insightful questions from the HSMF audience as well. A highlight for Fareed was meeting Steve Winwood. Just before the final Fareed Haque Group set, Steve came over and introduced himself as a fan. Fareed said he had to take a few deep breaths just to keep cool. He guesses he knows him from Deja VU (Fareed's CD) and his work with Sting years ago. They had a lovely conversation and jammed a bit at Karl Denson's set later that evening.

Fareed would also like to announce that last April 28th at 8:55 pm Elihu Scott Haque was born to Elizabeth and Fareed. Congratulations!

Keep an ear out for the new Sly Stone tribute CD on Magnitude records featuring Fareed Haque and others, including Robert Walter, and Eric Levy on keys, Kai Eckhardt on bass, and Stanton Moore on drums.

Ron Modell spent the fall lecturing and giving clinics at the following colleges: NIU, Coe College, Wichita State University, Kansas State University, University of Tennessee in Knoxville, and Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Miami University, Penn State University, and the following high schools: Crown High School in Carpentersville, Penn High School, in Indiana, DeKalb High

School, Libertyville High School, and Crown Point High School in Indiana. He will also give two major presentations at the International Trumpet Guild Conference in June at the University of Denver.

We are pleased and honored to be able to provide the Donald Walker In Tribute recording as a thank you for donations of at least \$25 to the Donald Walker Living Legacy Scholarship Fund. The gifts made to Don's scholarship fund will provide support, in perpetuity, for piano students in the Northern Illinois University School of Music.

This wonderful recording of live concert performances by Don is the result of a significant amount of unselfish work and review by friend Carol Berger, NIU faculty member William Koehler, and Don's family. We can think of no more fitting manner in which to remember our enormously talented friend than to listen to these remarkable performances. We know you will want to play them over and over again.

Donations must be made by check and should be sent to:
Donald Walker Scholarship
School of Music
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, IL 60115

Checks should be made payable to: NIU Foundation
Memo: Donald Walker Scholarship

Donors may obtain additional copies of the CD for \$10 each. Simply increment your donation for each extra CD you want, and include a note that you want additional discs.
STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS

Sam Attardo (1953), passed away in October. Sam was a music teacher in the North Boone School District 200 in Rockford for 32 years. He will be missed by many.

Kurt Mortensen (M.M., 1999) wrote a piece called "Isotropes" last year that is being premiered this weekend by the Thies Piano Quartet as part of the South Bay Chamber Music Society's 2003-2004 season in Los Angeles. There are two concerts, both with the same program. Kurt attended a rehearsal of his piece Monday night and said it sounded great. He hopes to get a recording from these performances and should that happen, he will post an mp3 on his website: <http://kurtmortensen.org>. Congratulations, Kurt!

Happy holidays to all from the staff and faculty of the NIU School of Music!
Be sure to check us out on the Web! <http://www.niu.edu/music>

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