

**Northern Illinois University  
School of Music  
December 2004 Newsletter**

**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: <http://www.niucalendar.edu/>

**December**

12/5 Annual Holiday Concert featuring Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, University Chorus, and NIU Brass Ensemble, Eric Johnson, director, 3 p.m., Concert Hall, \$7.00 adults, \$5.00 students, 10 and under free. For advance ticket (recommended) information, please contact Lynn Slater at 815-753-1546 or [lslater@niu.edu](mailto:lslater@niu.edu)

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITION DATES**

Formal audition dates for brass, percussion, piano, violin (music education), and woodwinds for Fall 2005 entrance to the School of Music are:

Friday, February 11, 2005

Saturday, February 12, 2005

Friday, March 4, 2005

Saturday, March 5, 2005

Voice auditions:

Thursday, February 10, 2005, 7 - 9 p.m.

Friday, February 11, 2005

Saturday, February 12, 2005

Thursday, March 3, 2005, 7 - 9 p.m.

Friday, March 4, 2005

Saturday, March 5, 2005

All Friday & Saturday days begin at 9:00 a.m.

Auditions for violin (performance), viola, cello, bass, organ, harp, steel pan, 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](mailto:lslater@niu.edu) for assistance.

All audition repertoire can be found on our website: <http://www.niu.edu/music>

**OTHER IMPORTANT DATES**

**University Open Houses**

Monday, February 21, 2005 (President's Day)

Friday, March 25, 2005 (Good Friday/Spring Break)

**The Midwest Clinic**

December 14-18, 2004

We'll be at booth 223 in the Southeast Hall. Be sure to stop in!

**IMEA**

January 27-29, 2005

See you there - booths 230-231!

The School of Music alumni, student, and friends reception will be held on Friday, January 28 from 6 - 8 p.m. in the LaSalle Room in the Hotel Pere Marquette. If you are attending the IMEA convention or are in the Peoria area, please plan on joining us for this wonderful event. We'd love to see you!

#### High School Music Events

The School of Music, in conjunction with the Office of External Programs, is once again offering many events for high school music groups and individuals:

February 4, Jazz Day, for all jazz bands  
February 9, Women's Chorus Day, for treble choirs  
March 8, Jazz Combo Day, for individual jazz players  
March 9, String Day (New!)  
March 19, NIU Clarinet Cornucopia

For more information about our 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](mailto:dbooth@niu.edu).

#### FACULTY NEWS

Brian Groner has just celebrated his tenth season as Music Director of the Fox Valley Symphony in the Appleton, Wisconsin area. To read an article about his tenure with them, go to the following website: [www.wisinfo.com/postcrescent/news/archive/life\\_18136678.shtml](http://www.wisinfo.com/postcrescent/news/archive/life_18136678.shtml).

Myron Myers will sing a performance of Schubert's Winterreise on January 30 (Schubert's birthday) in the Fazioli Piano Showroom, Pianoforte, in the Fine Arts Building, 410 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 825, Chicago. Pianist Stuart Leitch will accompany him. Admission is free, but seats are reserved due to limited seating. For more information, please call 312-0291-0000.

Congratulations to Ron Carter, who received the 2004 Kemet Award. This award was created to recognize NIU black alumni for their professional accomplishments and commitment to serving humanity; and NIU faculty, staff, alumni, and other noteworthy people for their success, presence, personality, achievement, history, and contribution to NIU, particularly African American students.

Robert Sims will make his Carnegie Hall debut on February 6 at 3 p.m. in New York City. He will be joined by accompanist Cliff Jackson in a program of Spirituals and Folk Songs. For more information or tickets, go to [www.canticlassics.com/links.html](http://www.canticlassics.com/links.html) or call 773-262-9655.

Tom Garling's new CD is now available at [www.tomgarling.com](http://www.tomgarling.com) or [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com).

Robert Fleisher attended the Region IV conference of the Society of Composers in November at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC, where Dr. Elizabeth Morrow (University of Texas, Arlington) gave the first performance of his new work for unaccompanied cello, *Ma mère*.

Greg Barrett will be performing with Duo Galay at K.A.M. Isaiah Israel Congregation, 1100 E. Hyde Park Boulevard, Chicago, IL (phone 773-924-1234), in a program of music by Israeli composers on January 30, 2005.

## STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS:

Tom Stark, B.M. '97, is back in the Chicago area. He is currently playing with another alumnus, Casey Maday in the Chicago Trombone Quartet. Their website is [www.chicagotrombonequartet.com](http://www.chicagotrombonequartet.com).

William Hass, B.S., '64, sent us a letter with an update: After teaching public school music in Kane County for 5 years, he attended Southwestern Seminary (TX) to complete a Master of Church Music degree in 1971. He taught music and headed the Music Department for Dallas Bible College (TX) for 6+ years. He then migrated into the field of Christian camping - spending 13 years as a camp manager in Colorado and Texas. During all of this time, he and his wife were active in church music. Mrs. Haas taught piano & played church organ for 30 years. Along with wife Marilyn Swanson Haas, they spent the next 10 years in South Asia in the area of development, teaching, and missions. They have now returned to Wonder Lake, Illinois and are semi-retired. They have a son and daughter, both of whom also majored in music! Bill will always be grateful for the excellent undergrad musical training and experiences he received at NIU. Thanks Bill!

David Ehrlich, B.M. '75 & M.M. '76, has been named a university fellow for Outreach and International Affairs and will be involved in helping in the development of arts and culture in Blacksburg, Virginia. With the backing of the university, he and wife, Teresa Gravino Ehrlich, B.M. '76 & M.M. '78, will be able to expand their current efforts through their Renaissance Music Academy and Musica Viva to reach more underserved communities and hopefully enrich the lives of more people throughout their region.

Jim Miksche, M.M. '02, was accepted into a doctoral program at UW Madison. He recently passed his prelims for his dissertation proposal regarding a folkloristic, and slightly ethnomusicological analysis of Upper Midwestern singer/songwriters with respect to regional identity. Good luck, Jim!

Becky Swett, M.M. '02, has accepted an adjunct faculty position at Southwestern Illinois College in Belleville, Illinois. She is also principal clarinetist of the St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra.

Drostan Hall, P.C. '93, announces the release of a CD that features the classic tale of Ferdinand the Bull by Munro Leaf. The story has been set to music by Alan Ridout and is written for solo violin and narrator. Children will have a wonderful time following along in the book as they listen to this captivating story and identify the musical themes representing each character. Other selections include some well-known pieces from Carnival of the Animals as well as other favorites such as Flight of the Bumble-Bee, The Hot Canary and the Laughing Violin, along with amusing poetry by Ogden Nash and others - an absolutely delightful experience. Instruments featured include violin, piano, cello, double bass, flute, and clarinet. To obtain a CD, you can go to Drostan's website [www.hallschoolofmusic.com](http://www.hallschoolofmusic.com) or you may call 630-221-5555.

Patrick Schleker, B.M. '04, was the winner of the Timpani Mock Audition at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Nashville last month. Adjudicators for the event were some of the world's leading timpanists, including Vic Firth (recently retired from the Boston Symphony), Gerald Carlyss (previously of The Philadelphia Orchestra), Stanley Leonard (recently retired from The Pittsburgh Symphony), and Tony Cirone (retired from San Francisco Symphony). Congratulations, Pat!

Susan Tarson, M.M. '00, recently received National Board Certification. This is a credential attesting that a teacher has been judged by peers as one who is accomplished, makes sound

professional judgments about student learning, and acts effectively on those judgments. National Board Certified Teachers demonstrate a high level of knowledge, skills, dispositions and commitments reflected in the National Board's Five Core Propositions. During the 2003-2004 school year, she began the process of earning her National Board Certification. All candidates had to videotape and write about their teaching, then take a six part written exam. This process also had to be completed during the regular school year. Congratulations, Sue!

Christine Monteiro, current student, has won the audience award in the Cybersing Competition, sponsored by the Lotte Lehmann Foundation. Cybersing is a world-wide competition, in which singers submit CDs of their singing. These CDs are downloaded on a website and fans of art song can log on and judge the contestants. A professional panel also adjudicates the entrants.

---

Let us know if you have info you would like to share with other music educators and friends of the NIU School of Music. We can add it to our next newsletter (1st of each month). Just send your info to [lslater@niu.edu](mailto:lslater@niu.edu)!  
Our web site is updated almost daily!

Check it out! <http://www.niu.edu/music>

Alumni - Do you have a link you want to add to our website? Just let us know!  
Our next e-mail newsletter will be sent in February 2005.

Happy Holidays to all of you!

Lynn Slater  
Coordinator of Admissions & Public Relations  
School of Music  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, IL 60115  
phone 815-753-1546  
fax 815-753-1759  
[lslater@niu.edu](mailto:lslater@niu.edu)  
<http://www.niu.edu/music>