

November 1998

SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITION DATES

Formal audition dates for Fall 1999 entrance to the School of Music are:

Saturday, February 20, 1999
Saturday, March 20, 1999

Saxophone Auditions

Wednesday, February 3, 1999
Saturday, February 13, 1999
Monday, February 15, 1999

All string auditions will be made by private appointment.

Auditions for the Spring 1999 semester will be on a private basis. Please contact Lynn Slater at 815-753-1546 or e-mail her at lslater@niu.edu for details. Let us know if you have students that are interested in auditioning for us.

UPCOMING ON-CAMPUS FACULTY & STUDENT RECITALS/CONCERTS

All of our concerts (unless otherwise indicated) are free and open to the public.

November

11/5/98 Bergen Woodwind Quartet Recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
11/7/98 Ramces Marsilli, senior trumpet recital, 12 noon, Recital Hall
11/8/98 Oksana Ezhokina, graduate piano recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
11/9/98 All-University Jazz Band Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
11/10/98 Opera Workshop, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
11/11/98 Opera Workshop, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
11/12/98 Wind Symphony Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
11/12/98 JazzVox, 6 p.m., Diversions Lounge, Holmes Student Center
11/13/98 Marching Band Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
11/15/98 Robb Mullins, senior trumpet/piano recital, 12 noon, Recital Hall
11/15/98 World Music Concert, 3 p.m., Concert Hall
11/16/98 Percussion Ensemble Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
11/17/98 Trombone Choir Concert, 6 p.m., Recital Hall
11/17/98 Jazz Lab Band Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
11/18/98 Adam Grosso, junior percussion recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall

11/19/98 Jeremy Cook, graduate cello recital, 6:30 p.m., Recital Hall
11/19/98 Jazz Ensemble Concert, 8 p.m., Duke Ellington Ballroom, Holmes Student Center
11/20/98 Lipatti String Quartet, 4 p.m., Recital Hall
11/20/98 Kevin Brandon Celebration of Support Concert, 7 p.m., Concert Hall
11/22/98 Chia-Yi Lee, graduate piano recital, 1 p.m., Recital Hall
11/22/98 University Band Concert, 3 p.m., Concert Hall
11/22/98 Jennifer Reiff, sophomore flute recital, 6:30 p.m., Recital Hall
11/22/98 Allegra Wermuth, graduate violin recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
11/23/98 Andrea Ware, graduate cello recital, 6:30 p.m., Recital Hall
11/23/98 Wind Ensemble Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
11/24/98 Carl Fritz, graduate jazz recital, 6:30 p.m., Recital Hall
11/24/98 NIU Philharmonic Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
11/26/98 Happy Thanksgiving!
11/29/98 Choral Holiday Concert, All Choirs, 3 p.m., Concert Hall
11/29/98 Chun Ju Tsai, senior piano recital, 7 p.m., Recital Hall
11/30/98 Pinotage (with faculty Julia Bentley) - 20th Century Chamber Music Recital, 8 p.m. Recital Hall

December

12/1/98 Jazz ComboFest, 6 p.m. Diversions Lounge, Holmes Student Center

FACULTY NEWS

Rich Holly, assistant chair and professor of percussion, was recently elected by the membership to his 4th consecutive term as a member of the Percussive Arts Society's Board of Directors. The Percussive Arts Society has a membership of nearly 8,000 with chapters in all 50 states and more than 40 foreign countries. Congratulations, Rich!

Myron Myers, associate professor of voice, sang the role of Bartolo in Opera International's production of *Barber of Seville* (Rossini) recently. Joseph McClellan of the Washington

Post had this to say about his performance, "...Bass Myron Myers was a well-rounded Bartolo, riotously indignant most of the time and very droll when he sang the little song 'Quanto mi sei vicina' in quite a good countertenor voice." Myron will be singing the bass solo in the B-minor Mass (Bach) with Chicago's Music of the Baroque in four performances this month. He will also sing as a soloist with them again in their five Christmas concerts at various venues in the Chicago area in December. For ticket information, please call Myron at 815-753-3429.

Ronald Carter, associate professor and coordinator of jazz studies, was honored as a "Great Teacher" by the College of Education students at Eastern Illinois University.

Professor Carter was one of thirteen teachers selected from a group of over 200 nominations. All thirteen teachers were invited to share their expertise with current students and participate in an open forum with the entire college campus. Carter recently presented a paper and lecture at the Illinois College Music Educators Association Conference at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois. His presentation was titled "Starting a Beginning Jazz Band."

Ricardo Castañeda, principal instructor of oboe, performed a solo with the William Ferris Chorale. December will find him playing with the Joffrey Ballet Nutcracker Orchestra!

Kathryne Pirtle, instructor of clarinet, toured New Jersey and Connecticut with The Orion Ensemble. They premiered *The Pontoon-Bridge Miracle* for Violin, Clarinet, and Piano, a piece written for them by James Wintle, professor of music at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Kathryne has been busy adjudicating for IMEA as well as teaching privately. Both of her private high school students auditioned and were accepted into IMEA. Her students are from New Trier High School and St. Charles High School.

Ron Modell, retired faculty member, recently performed at the University of North Florida with Tito Puente. He also traveled to the University of Iowa, where he lectured to their music students about jazz programs. He performed with the Neuqua Valley Wind Ensemble and Concert Band at the end of October and will conduct the District II Jazz Festival this Saturday. Some retirement!

Jan Bach's 1964 *Four Two-Bit Contraptions* for Flute and Horn will be played by members of the Bergen Norway Woodwind Quintet during a master class to be presented here this Friday, November 6. Jan tells us that this piece is his most performed composition - particularly on April Fool's Day concerts!

Professors Ronnie Wooten, Larry Stoffel, Rod Schueller, and graduate student Reuben Cooper were recently the judges for marching bands at the Sycamore Pumpkin Parade.

The Orion Ensemble will continue their 1998-99 season with a concert on Sunday, November 22, at the Fox Valley Unity Church in Batavia and on Monday, November 23, at Roosevelt University. Their special guest artist will be flutist, Michelle DeBost. For ticket information, please call 630-628-9591.

Professor Ron Carter was recently the guest conductor for the Wisconsin All-State Honors Jazz Ensemble at their annual conference in Madison, Wisconsin. He will be the guest director for the IMEA District III Honors Jazz Band on November 7 at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Fareed Haque, associate professor of guitar, and the Fareed Haque Quartet will play at the Guimares Jazz Festival in Guimares, Portugal, on November 13. Fareed will then travel to Gottinger, Germany, for November 18 and 19 concerts.

Mel Warner, professor of clarinet, continues to serve as principal clarinet of the Illinois Chamber Symphony (since 1988) and the Chicago Sinfonietta (also since 1988). Mel also performs with Midsummers Music (a chamber ensemble of 10-12 players). During the summer, they presented eleven concerts in Door County, Wisconsin. They recently completed recording their second CD, which includes the Karg-Elert *Jugend* for flute, clarinet, horn, and piano and the Spohr Septet in A, Op. 147 for flute, clarinet, bassoon, horn, violin, cello, and piano. Warner can also be heard on the six CDs recorded by the Chicago Sinfonietta.

Diane Ragains, associate professor of voice, is currently in the process of recording music for a new CD which includes the Webern *Fünf Canons* for soprano, clarinet, and bass clarinet, the Shulamit Ran *Apprehensions* for soprano, clarinet, and piano and the Webern "Quartet Op. 22" for violin, clarinet, tenor sax, and piano. Mel Warner is the clarinetist for each piece.

STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS:

Did you happen to catch the NIU Steel Band on WGN television last Friday? Very cool.

The Huskie Marching Band returned from their exciting trip to the University of Central Florida and their performance at Walt Disney World!

Alain Durbecz, 1984 alum, tells us that he is the co-principal cellist with the Mexico National Symphony Orchestra and cellist/manager of the Russian-American String Quartet.

The NIU football team wins!!!! The Huskie Marching Band was soaked in the rain, but what an awesome halftime show and day! The dreaded record has been broken!

The NIU Jazz Lab Band, under the direction of Paul McKee, will be performing at the Music Mart in downtown Chicago on Wednesday, November 11, as part of their noon concert series. The noon concerts are traditionally very well attended and allow students a chance to gain valuable performance experience off-campus. The band will be performing a variety of music for big band, including several new arrangements by Paul McKee. If you happen to be "doing lunch" in Chicago on that date, drop in and hear the Lab Band!

MISCELLANEOUS STUFF

The NIU Jazz Jam has moved to Pagliai's Pizza. Students, faculty, and guest artists pop in every Wednesday evening from 8:30 - 11:30 and hold jam sessions. No cover charge. Can't beat that!

The NIU Jazz Studies program will host jazz drummer great, Carl Allen, who will be presenting a mini concert/master class on Thursday, November 12, from 4-6 p.m. in the NIU Recital Hall. Saxophonist Jimmy Heath will be here on Thursday, November 19, at 11 a.m. (Room 155) to present a jazz masterclass. Everyone is welcome to attend either or both classes.

The following high school marching bands participated in the annual NIU Band Day at the 10/31/98 football game: Bartlett HS, Curie HS, Dakota HS, DeKalb HS, Dixon HS, Henry-Senachwine HS, Hiawatha HS, North Chicago Community HS, Oregon HS, Ottawa Township HS, Richmond-Burton Community HS, Riverdale HS, Streator Township HS, and West Chicago HS. Everyone had a great time (even if our Huskies did not win this one).

Let us know if you have info you would like to share with other music educators, faculty, staff, alums, and friends. We can add it to our next newsletter (1st of each month). Just send us a reply!