

October 2000

SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITION DATES

Formal audition dates for Fall 2001 entrance to the School of Music are:

Friday, February 16, 2001
Saturday, February 17, 2001
Friday, March 23, 2001
Saturday, March 24, 2001

Additional saxophone audition dates:

Friday, November 17, 2000
Friday, January 19, 2001
Friday, March 2, 2001

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.

Auditions for Spring 2001 semester are also on a private basis. Please contact Lynn Slater for details.

UPCOMING RECITALS/CONCERTS

For an up-to-date listing of the upcoming on-campus faculty and student recitals/concerts, visit our [Concert Schedule](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

University Open Houses

10/9/00 Columbus Day
11/10/00 Veteran's Day - observed
2/19/01 President's Day
4/13/01 Good Friday

Educational Conferences

12/20-23/00 *The Midwest Clinic*
We'll be in booth 923 in the Southwest Hall.
Be sure to stop in!
1/25-27/00 *IMEA*

See you there!

High School Music Days

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

November 20	Conducting Clinic, for band and wind ensemble directors
February 2	Jazz Day, for all jazz bands
February 7	Women's Chorus Day, for treble choirs (New!)
February 15	Männerchor Fest, for male soloists or ensembles
February 27 and March 8	Wind and Percussion Festival, for bands
March 20	Jazz Combo Day, for individual jazz players

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.

Check out the High School Music Days website to view the latest information about these wonderful events!

FACULTY NEWS

Recent premieres of pieces by *Jan Bach* were *In the Hands of the Tongue* for a cappella choir (settings of five poems by David Weiss about the Holocaust) performed by the Cantori Singers of Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Robert Cowles conducting, Geneva NY, and *The Duel* (*The Gingham Dog and the Calico Cat*), words by Eugene Field, for children's chorus and piano, performed by the Northern Illinois Children's Chorus, Carol Stubbs conducting. Other works of Jan Bach performed recently include *Variations on a Theme of Brahms*, Peninsula Festival Orchestra, Stephen Alltop conducting, Door County WI, and *Concerto for Steelpan and Orchestra*, Liam Teague, soloist, with the Chicago Sinfonietta conducted by Paul Freeman and Brian Groner.

Reminiscences of Spanish composer Robert Gerhard by Jan Bach and Roger Reynolds, both of whom studied with Gerhard at the Berkshire Music Center, MA forty years ago, appeared as Appendix 3 in *Robert Gerhard and His Music* by Joaquim Homs, published this year in England by the Anglo-Catalan Society.

The Debussy Trio of Munich, Germany, just released a CD which includes Jan Bach's *Eisteddfod* for flute, harp, and viola. This makes the third CD of this work available simultaneously in commercial releases. The first two were performed by the Mallarmé Ensemble of North Carolina and the Debussy Trio of Los Angeles. A fourth performance, recorded in concert at the 1979 Aldeburgh Festival in England, is still being distributed to NPR stations around the U. S. by Parkways Communications of Maryland.

Four choral compositions of Jan Bach were published this summer by Yelton-Rhodes Music, Los Angeles: *Dirge for a Minstrel* (SATB a cappella), words by Thomas Chatterton; *A Solemn*

Music (SATB a cappella), words by John Milton; There was a Little Woman (SATB a cappella), words anonymous; and With Trumpet and Drum (sixteen solo SATB singers and piano), four poems by Eugene Field.

Ed Klonoski and *Eric Johnson* will present sessions at the ACDA National Convention in March 2001.

Jan Bach's biography will appear in the 55th edition of *Who's Who in America*, to be published in early 2001. He is one of only twenty or so NIU faculty members to be so honored. Dr. Bach's biography has appeared in every edition of the publication since 1974!

Jeff Stitely will be releasing a new CD "The Steve Griggs Quintet: Live!" on Hip City Music. He will begin touring with Seattle saxophonist Steve Griggs on Monday, October 9, starting with a Master Class at 4:00, followed by a 7:00 concert in the Recital Hall in the Music Building. Art Davis will be featured on trumpet. Jeff will be at the Randolph Café at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E Washington, Chicago on Tuesday, October 10 from 12-1:00 p.m., at the Chicago Cultural Center on Wednesday, October 11, 7:00 - 8:30, and at Michael's in Glen Ellyn on Saturday, October 14, 9:00 pm-12:00 midnight.

Ricardo Castañeda was the solo oboe in a performance of Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante, K279b for Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet and French Horn with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra in South Bend, Indiana on October 1. Ricardo just accepted the position as program director for the symphony session at Birch Creek Music Performance Center for the summer of 2001.

Ronald Carter will be a special guest of the Houston, Texas School District presenting three days of workshops and clinics, November 1-3. He will be guest director for the Illinois Music Educator's District VII Honors Jazz band on November 11. Carter has agreed to be the Mid-America Coordinator for the Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Festival and Competition 2000-2001, sponsored by Jazz @ Lincoln Center, New York, New York.

STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS:

A new performing group of clarinet students called *ClarEnsemble* has formed at NIU. On Tuesday, November 14th at 6:30 pm in the Recital Hall the ensemble will give its first concert including works by Barber, Mozart, and Reich. The group is under the direction of *Greg Barrett*.

In February of 2000, *Donald Walker's* former student *Anthony Padilla* won first prize in the New York Concert Artists Guild Award. In addition to a cash prize, Tony gets Artists Management and concert engagements throughout the world. In early September, *Zhe Tang* placed second in the first Grieg International Competition held in Oslo, Norway. He competed against 25 finalists from around the world. Solo and orchestral engagements will follow. Zhe Tang also studied with Donald Walker.

Rick Hirsch ('95) is now adjunct faculty in the School of Music at Penn State University main campus where he teaches Jazz Arranging and Rudiments of Music. He also has several jazz compositions and arrangements published by Walrus Music.

1999 Golden Apple Award winner *Steve Tabisz* ('93) was featured in the September 27 issue of The Chicago Tribune. The article related how he inspires his young singers to aim high!

Pete Madsen ('95) is now teaching jazz and trombone at the University of Nebraska Omaha. He also tells us that he and Lee have a five month old baby. Congrats!

The *NIU Jazz Ensemble* under the direction of *Ronald Carter* has been selected through the audition process to perform at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois on Friday, December 22, 2000 in the Grand Ballroom. The featured guest artist will be saxophonist, Jimmy Heath. NIU Jazz Studies faculty, *Willie Pickens* and *Joey Sellers* will also be featured. The NIU Jazz Ensemble was also selected to perform at the International Association of Jazz Educator's conference to be held in New York City, on January 10-12.

Brett and Jennifer Holcomb (both '95) currently reside in Chicago with their new baby.

Elainie Lillios ('90 & '92) recently received her DMA in composition with emphasis in computer music media from the University of North Texas. She is Assistant Professor of Composition at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, where she teaches composition, orchestration, and music technology courses.

ODDS & ENDS

The organ faculty would like to announce that the "Bach-a-thon" on October 15 starting at 7 p.m. will be Bach organ music played by seven organists including faculty, students and alumni, and will include many favorites like Toccata in D Minor and Sleepers Wake. The concert commemorates the 250th anniversary of the death of J.S. Bach and also celebrates the day of the American Guild of Organists' "World's Largest Organ Concert."

Let us know if you have info you would like to share with other music educators. We can add it to our next newsletter (1st of each month) while classes are in session. Just send your info to lslater@niu.edu!

If you have questions about any of the information in this newsletter, or would like more details, please contact Lynn Slater at 815-753-1546 or lslater@niu.edu.