

# *September 1999*

Hello and welcome back to another school year! We are up and running here in the NIU Music Building. 105 new freshmen/transfer students and 36 grad students have joined us this semester. We wish them success in their college endeavors!

## **SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITION DATES**

Formal audition dates for Fall 2000 entrance to the School of Music are:

- **Friday, February 18, 2000**
- **Saturday, February 19, 2000**
- **Friday, March 24, 2000**
- **Saturday, March 25, 2000**

Auditions for the Spring 2000 semester are private. Please contact Lynn Slater at 815-753-1546 or e-mail her at [lslater@niu.edu](mailto:lslater@niu.edu) for details. Let us know if you have students that are interested in auditioning for us!

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## **OTHER IMPORTANT DATES**

### **University Open Houses**

- October 11, 1999 (Columbus Day)
- November 11, 1999 (Veteran's Day)
- February 21, 2000 (President's Day)
- April 21, 2000 (Good Friday)

### **The Midwest Clinic**

- December 15-18, 1999  
We'll be at booth 923 in the Southwest Hall. Be sure to stop in!

### **IMEA**

- January 27-29, 2000

See you there!

### **VARIOUS HIGH SCHOOL DAYS**

Check out the School of Music web page <http://www.niu.edu/music> for information about the seven high school days offered by the School of Music throughout the 1999-2000 school year. You can register for events by printing out and mailing the registration page.

The days are:

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For whom?</b>
October 16, 1999	Männerchor Fest	Small and large male choral ensembles
October 21, 1999	Choir Day	Choirs
November 22, 1999	Conducting Clinic	Band and orchestra directors
February 4, 2000	Jazz Day	Jazz bands
February 29, 2000	Clarinet Fest	Individual clarinetists
March 10, 2000	Clarinet Fest	Individual clarinetists
March 21, 2000	Jazz Combo Day	Individual jazz players

For more information, 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).

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### **UPCOMING ON-CAMPUS FACULTY & STUDENT RECITALS/CONCERTS**

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

#### **September**

9/7/99 Lipatti Quartet, 6:30 p.m., Concert Hall

9/8/99 Vermeer Quartet, 8 p.m., Concert Hall

9/9/99 Guest Artists David Schulenberg and Mary Oleskiewicz (harpsichord/flute), 8 p.m., Recital Hall

9/15/99 Phi Mu Alpha Chapter Recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall

9/19/99 Harold Kafer and guests recital, 3 p.m., Recital Hall

9/20/99 Guest Composer Rodney Waschka Recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall

9/23/99 Choral Collage Concert (NIU Choirs), 8 p.m., Concert Hall

9/29/99 Wind Ensemble, 8 p.m., Concert Hall

#### **October**

10/1/99 Guest Artist Todd Welbourne Midi-Piano Recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall

10/2/99 Ke-Yin Kilburn, grad piano recital, 3 p.m., Concert Hall  
10/6/99 Jazz Lab Band/All-University Jazz Band Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall  
10/7/99 NIU Philharmonic, 8 p.m., Concert Hall

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## NEW FACES!

We welcome the following new faculty members to the School of Music!

[Joey Sellers](#), a jazz trombonist and composer/arranger joins our faculty teaching jazz studies and directing the Jazz Lab Band. He had been active professionally in Los Angeles and New York. We welcome Joey, his wife and daughter to DeKalb!

Linda Baker, clarinetist with the Lyric Opera of Chicago joins our clarinet faculty this fall.

[John Floeter](#) has joined our ranks to teach bass. He currently plays with the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra, the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Chicago String Ensemble and is a sub for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Sandra Frey Stegman has joined our faculty as an Associate Professor in Music Education. She will conduct the University Chorus and serve as Coordinator of the Music Education area.

[Margarite \(Peg\) Ortega](#) joins us as the assistant director of Huskie Bands. Her responsibilities will include Marching Band, Pep Bands, All-University Band, and teaching some music education courses.

A hearty NIU School of Music welcome to all!

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## FACULTY NEWS

Larry Stoffel, Director of Huskie Bands, is now Dr. Stoffel! He completed the Doctor of Music degree in conducting from Indiana University this past summer. Way to go Larry!

Dr. Green spent two and a half weeks in Israel in May on a Lillian Cobb Foundation Grant from NIU. He played hurdy-gurdy concertos with a period instrument group, The Jerusalem Consort. He taught a viol workshop at Bar Ilan University and gave a lecture to the musicology faculty and students on his research.

John Fairfield went on a 10-concert tour of Switzerland and Germany with the

Chicago Sinfonietta. The tour also included School of Music faculty Mel Warner and Ricardo Castañeda. He played in two concerts with the Chicago Symphony at Ravinia. He also spent time in Door County Wisconsin in June with the Midsummer's Music Concerts along with faculty Jim Berkenstock, Mel Warner, and Bill Koehler.

We welcome two small members to our music family - Grace Klonoski, born 6/15/99 and Ryan Johnson, born 7/13/99. Babies, moms, and dads are doing fine!

The Orion Ensemble with Kathryn Pirtle has announced their 1999-2000 season. Their Concert I series will begin on Sunday, October 10, 1999 at the Fox Valley Unity Church in Batavia and on Wednesday, October 13 at Roosevelt University. For tickets or more information, call 630-628-9591.

William Koehler performed on seven of the ten festival concerts presented by the Midsummer's Music chamber ensemble in Door County, Wisconsin in June. He appeared twice with violinist David Perry of the Pro Arte Quartet in performances of the Chausson Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet, and can be heard on all three works included in Midsummer's Music second CD (just released). In July, Koehler performed a solo recital at the University of Texas at Austin. This was a special concert in memory of Dr. William Race, who had taught at the university for over thirty years. Also in July, Koehler made his Ravinia Festival debut in a trio concert in Martin Theatre with Alex Klein (principal oboist of the Chicago Symphony) and violist Marlise Klein (of the Orion Chamber Ensemble), performing works by Loeffler, White, Bridge, and Klughardt.

Joey Sellers was commissioned to pen a septet arrangement for Los Angeles studio tubist Jim Self (most famously known, perhaps, as the voice of the "Mothership" in the movie Close Encounters of the Third Kind) of Jim's tune Bassett Hound Blues. Joey's association with Jim began when Jim asked Joey to arrange and conduct an entire album for Jim's Quintet, featuring Pete Christlieb on tenor sax, Terry Trotter on piano, Tom Warrington on bass, and Steve Houghton on drums.

Sellers has also been commissioned by Dr. Nat Wickham and the University of Northern Colorado to create a significant work for trombone and jazz ensemble, to be premiered at the IAJE (International Association of Jazz Educators) conference in New Orleans.

According to The Village Voice (American's Largest Weekly Newspaper), Joey Sellers has taken a Midwest teaching gig. I wonder where that could be!

Marlene Rosenberg stayed busy over the summer playing at the Chicago Cultural Center with her trio at the South Shore Jazz Fest with the Orbert Davis and Strings Double Quartet and at the Chicago JazzFest (on 9/4/99) with her quartet. Upcoming gigs include the Green Mill at 9 p.m. - 1:30 on September 24 and 8

p.m. - 12 on September 25 with Willie Pickens and Michael Rabinowitz (jazz bassoonist). She can also be heard on September 26 at the World Music Fest - a concert with a collective of 11 different musicians from around the world that all currently live in Chicago. The music ranges from Turkish to African to Chinese to Latin to Pakistani, etc. Marlene says this concert is not to be missed! For more information, feel free to e-mail Marlene at MRosen99@aol.com.

This summer Jan Bach completed a work for horn and piano, commissioned by Jerry Fialek for his daughter Deborah, NIU MUSIC which was based somewhat on the NIU Alma Mater written by the late Wilbur Smith of the NIU faculty. It was intended as a graduation present for Deb, who received her Master of Music Performance degree from the San Francisco Conservatory this summer. Deb planned to debut the work in Santa Barbara this summer. Dr. Bach also wrote a ten-minute a cappella work commissioned by the Cantori chamber choir of Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva NY, where his daughter Eva is a senior choir member and first alto. It was based on In The Hands of the Tongue, a set of lyric poems by David Weiss, who teaches English at the HWS campus. The work will be premiered in the spring during a tour of New York City and environs. Older works receiving performances this summer included his Concert Variations for Euphonium and Piano (Tokyo), Concerto for Euphonium and Orchestra (Sweden), Four Two-Bit Contraptions for Flute and Horn (members of the National Symphony in summer residence in Miami) and Eisteddfod for flute, harp, and viola, by three young ladies from Indiana University whose performance was chosen as the only American chamber group to play in the "Focus on Youth" festival at the World Harp Congress in Prague on July 24th. Two more performances of the Steelpan Concerto are scheduled with Liam Teague: Fort Collins CO on February 13th and 15th, 2000; and March 16th and 17th by the Bellevue (WA) Symphony near Seattle, Maestro Fusao Kajima conducting all four performances. Dr. Bach is now busy writing a series of orchestra arrangements of spirituals to be sung by NIU resident baritone Robert Sims, a work for the Northern Illinois Children's Chorus, and a work for steelpan and choir for Nancy Menk, director of the South Bend (IN) Chamber Singers.

We had sad news over the summer. Former faculty member Wilbur Pursley passed away on May 26th, and former School of Music Chair Don Funes passed away on July 3.

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### **STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS:**

Kristin Serwa (NIU '99), alum of the Huskie Marching Band, was recently selected for the Chicago Luvabulls, the Dance Team and Cheerleaders for the World Championship Chicago Bulls!

Deb Fialek received her Masters from the San Francisco Conservatory and won

the 4th horn position in the New Mexico Symphony

Albert Suarez (BM '96) received his Masters from the New England Conservatory. He is hornist in the Huntington Brass Quintet that will be doing a residency program in Texas under the auspices of Chamber Music America.

Teresa Gravino Ehrlich (BM '76, MM '78) is the recipient of the 1999 NIU Alumni Associations's Outstanding Young Alumni Award from the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Congratulations Teresa!

Liam Teague (BM '96, MM '98) was the subject of a feature article in the Magazine section of the Sunday, June 27, 1999 Chicago Tribune. Yes, that was Liam on the front cover!

Alain Durbecq is currently co-principal cellist with the Mexico National Symphony Orchestra and founding member and manager of the Russian-American String Quartet.

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## **ODDS & ENDS**

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). Just send your info to [lslater@niu.edu](mailto:lslater@niu.edu)!