

November/December 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, 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](#).

Winter break begins December 17. We'll be back on January 16, 2001.

IMPORTANT DATES

University Open Houses

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:

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

Glenda Cosenza will be presenting a session titled "2000: A Musical Space Odyssey" at the American Orff Schulwerk National Conference in Rochester, New York on November 8-12. In this session, participants will be using facts about the solar system as a basis for creating rhythmic speech pieces with movement and unpitched percussion. They will also invent a new scale/tonality and using that scale, create a new version of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star. This is an example of an interdisciplinary unit of study with music at the core. It is appropriate for general music classes from 4th through 8th grades. Glenda will also present Techno-Teaching in the General Music Classroom, a technology session at the IMEA conference in January. This session will focus on showing music educators ways to smoothly integrate technology-based lessons and activities, particularly music composition, into classroom routines when there is only one or perhaps a few computer stations available for students to use during music class times.

Ron Modell is keeping busy in retirement with clinics and as a guest soloist and conductor in Illinois and Indiana. He has also been invited to guest conduct the All State Honors Jazz Band at the Florida Music Educators Association Convention in Tampa, Florida in January. He will also hold clinics in Sarasota, Florida.

Marlene Rosenberg was recently "Someone You Should Know" on the Chicago Channel 7 news program hosted by Harry Porterfield.

Joey Sellers is currently on tour in the Midwest with the Side Street Strutters. The ensemble reworks the music of Jelly Roll Morton, Fats Waller, Duke Ellington, and others. He will perform with the NIU Chamber Choir concert on December 3 and will also play with the NIU Jazz Ensemble at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago in December and at the IAJE Conference in New York in January. He finished orchestrating music for 'pops' performances with the Tulsa and Long Beach (CA) Symphonies in February. While in California, he will play at Rocco's in Los Angeles with Joe Labarbara and Larry Koonse.

Ron Carter will be a clinician and guest artist for the Denver Jazz Event in Denver, Colorado, in March. He has also agreed to be guest solo artist and clinician for the Georgia College and State University Annual Jazz concert in Milledgeville, GA.

STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS:

Pulitzer Prize winner and multiple Grammy winner Wynton Marsalis will be the special guest of the *NIU Jazz Ensemble* at the International Association of Jazz Educator's Conference in New York. The scheduled performance will be at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 13, 2001 in the Sutton Room, Hilton Hotel. While in New York, the Jazz Ensemble will also perform at a high School in Queens.

Anthony Padilla and *Zhe Tang*, both former students of piano professor *Donald Walker* recently received top awards. Padilla received the top prize of the 2000 Concert Artists Guild International Competition, held

in New York. He currently teaches at Lawrence University in Appleton, WI. Tang received the silver medal at the Grieg International Piano Competition, held in Oslo, Norway. Tang studied with Walker for his undergraduate and graduate training and is pursuing a doctorate at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. Congratulations to both!

Albert Suarez will be at Carnegie Hall on November 18 with the Huntington Brass Quintet.

Julia Fischer will be the alto soloist in Handel's Messiah with the Apollo Chorus and Orchestra at Orchestra Hall in Chicago on December 16 and 17.

Nine men from the *NIU Choral Department* sang in the Illinois ACDA Male Honor Choir, conducted by Rodney Eichenberger in conjunction with the Illinois ACDA Fall Convention. The *Concert Choir* also performed at the convention. The choir was selected for this honor after submitting a taped audition. Response from the audience was great!

Congratulations to the *Avalon Quartet* for winning the "Silver String" in the Munich International String Quartet Competition.

Mahoko Eguchi won the viola chair in the National Symphony in Washington, D.C.

The *NIU Steel Band*, under the direction of *Al O'Connor* and *Cliff Alexis*, succeeded in winning second place in the finals of the 2000 World Steelband Festival held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Saturday, October 21, 2000. Their final score was 551.5 points out of 600. The TCL Skiffle Bunch band from Trinidad took first place with a score of 576.5. NIU pulled out all of the stops for the finals - Cliff Alexis wrote new music for his calypso all night the night before and NIU Research Scholar Liam Teague played a solo - which has never been done before. NIU competed with bands from Trinidad & Tobago, Finland, United Kingdom, Switzerland, France, Grenada, and USA. This event is important historically in that 1) Never before has a foreign (non-Trinidad/Tobago) band even gotten to the finals of the WSF, 2) Never before has a foreign band been a challenge to a Trinidad/Tobago band, and 3) Wood-N-Steel (NIU Faculty member *Robert Chappell* composition) and Pan 2000 (Cliff Alexis composition) were considered innovations to this competition.

ODDS & ENDS

Position Announcement

The NIU School of Music announces two position openings: Percussion Teacher/Artist and Piano Pedagogy. Both are full-time, tenure track positions beginning August 16, 2001.

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.