



Dean's Letter

Greetings to all of you from all of us!

As we begin another year, it is always a pleasure to hear from some of you and to continue to follow your careers. And it is always a delight to



see our new grads begin their careers or continue their studies. Just to give you an idea of where you might run into a fellow HBU School of

Music alumnus, we now have people in the following places:

San Francisco Opera Solo Singer:
CHUCK REID

Portland Opera: **JAMES HALL**

Indiana University Graduate School of Music: **BEA GARNER, Performer's Diploma Program in Voice**

CAROL NAVE, DM in Organ and Church Music

SHANE NEIL, BM in Cello

MRS. BILLIE HAGEMEIER, DM in Voice

Western Michigan University: **LUKE DAHN, MM in Composition**

Rice University Shepherd School:
DALMA BORONKAI, MM in Voice

University of Houston Moores School:
KEVIN KLOTZ, MM in Choral Conducting

And many of you are teaching in and around the Houston area, directing music programs for a wide variety of churches, and performing

A tribute to Dr. Robert Linder — by Rhonda Furr

Renaissance Man

How does one pay tribute to a man whose life has been so intricately woven into the fabric of Houston Baptist University? For those of us whose lives have been forever changed by this great man, the task is daunting. We know of his lightening pace, his boundless energy, his drive for excellence and his knack for bringing out the best in those he leads. The Houston Chronicle called him a "Renaissance man." Yet these descriptions only highlight his amazing versatility.



Dr. Linder joined the HBU faculty in 1969 when he accepted the University's band director position. He noted that he had been "chasing marching bands" since his drum major days in high school and at the University of Houston. Following nine years of marching bands in the Cy-Fair school district, he was recommended for the HBU position by the respected musicologist, Willard Palmer. According to Linder, "Houston Baptist University had no football team so when the band director's job came open, I lunged at the opportunity."

At HBU, Dr. Linder discovered that "making music" ranged from conducting operas to directing pep bands. The instrumental program grew significantly under Linder's tutelage. Students were challenged to excel in a manner that fostered discipline and performance excellence. Regardless of the students' musical levels, he related to them in ways that improved their musicianship. Dave Womack, a 1970 music education major, studied conducting with Linder, performed in the band, and later worked under him in musical theater. "I was amazed at the energy and professionalism that he displayed. As a result of knowing Bob, I have always tried to give it my best, and I owe that work ethic to him." Linder's academic classes encouraged the same work ethic, and according to colleagues, his success was reflected in the popularity of his classes. Proud to be a part of the "Core" team (an interdisciplinary course sequence required for all HBU students), Dr. Linder found teaching in these many arenas to be extremely rewarding. He developed as an educator and a musician, noting that "HBU encourages creativity from its faculty, and I profited from this educational commitment to excellence." Dr. Linder's versatility was an asset, and he even spent time coaching the tennis team, teaching swimming (off campus) and taking HBU students on ski trips to New Mexico and Colorado.

In 1982, Dr. Linder became Dean of Fine Arts. Through his leadership, the College of Fine Arts grew to eighty music majors, five degree plans, and thirteen music faculty. Dr. James Taylor, Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, remembers Bob's effective leadership style. "While at HBU, Bob was the master

Houston Baptist University — School of Music
STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The Houston Baptist University School of Music fully supports, reflects and is bound by the statement of purpose adopted by the Trustees of the University.

Houston Baptist University is a coeducational, independent, comprehensive institution of higher learning related to the Baptist General Convention of Texas. The University is committed to educational excellence, the Christian faith, personal growth, respect for all persons, a sense of community, career preparation, and service to its various constituencies. The University emphasizes a supportive atmosphere for students, employees, alumni, and visitors from all backgrounds. Therefore, the University affirms the importance of:

- an environment which promotes academic freedom and objectivity, fosters the development of moral character, and enriches spiritual growth based on the Christian faith and message;
- education which promotes the development of critical and creative thinking, compassion, responsibility, and continuing interest in learning;
- programs and services which promote excellence within an academic community that fosters intellectual and social interaction in the teaching-learning processes;
- faculty who acknowledge teaching as a primary responsibility;
- students who are committed to high standards of personal and professional development;
- a responsive attitude to the many constituencies it serves through an attitude of willingness to change while remaining faithful to the original nature of the University.

The School of Music faculty believes and recognizes that musical talent and ability are gifts from God and that the School of Music has the responsibility of stewardship with its students. It is also true that the student has responsibility for stewardship of his/her gift, and that the educational experience at Houston Baptist University must be a mutual effort to develop God-given potential as far as is possible in the time available. The regulations and requirements of the varying curricula are intended to help in development of self discipline, an absolutely necessary skill for all musicians which is necessary to the development of potential and mature stewardship of gifts.

It is the nature and position of the School of Music to offer traditional training methods, as well as current technologies so as to present a challenging, fundamental education that will serve each student in whatever musical career each is called to pursue. The curricula emphasize enduring styles while equipping students to function in a wide variety of professional musical situations. Additionally, the School offers exposure to music that is functional or entertainment-oriented in nature (the purpose and use of these types of music are not questioned or negated, but their limited applicability is recognized).

As its means of realizing the above University Purpose Statement in and through its curricula and programs, the School of Music offers training and experience to its majors that:

- present literature, theory, history and information about the art of music that reflects the development of music over past millennia as well as current trends;
- challenge majors to develop performance, analytical, aural, and leadership skills that will serve them as musicians in multiple areas of service and opportunity;
- offer the opportunities to develop research, compositional, and writing skills that will stimulate and make possible continued study and learning for a lifetime;
- encourage healthy competition and cooperative learning in an environment of support and encouragement from both faculty mentors and peers;
- offer opportunities for solo and ensemble performance with close personal guidance by professionals.

Unanimous faculty adoption, 19 February 1996

HBU

Dr. E. D. Hodo, President

Dr. James Taylor, Dean, Arts & Humanities

Dr. Ann Gebuhr, Director, School of Music

*HBU*beat is published each Fall by the HBU School of Music. This newsletter is sent (free of charge) to alumni and friends of the School of Music. If you wish to be placed on our mailing list, write to:

*HBU*beat, School of Music
7502 Fondren Rd.
Houston TX 77074-3298

Rhonda Furr, Editor
rfurr@hbu.edu
281-649-3000 x2306

www.hbu.edu/music/

From the Editor:

Dear Alumni:

Thank you once again for submitting your updates for our annual newsletter. We have 55 updates from our alumni this year, many of which are appearing in our newsletter for the first time. I encourage each of you to keep us posted on transitions in your life, new phone numbers, mailing addresses and email addresses. When you talk with former HBU music students, ask them if they are on our mailing list and encourage them to notify us if they have not received our newsletters.

I would like to express a special thanks to Justin Jacobson, this year's co-editor. Justin is a junior BM/Piano Performance major. She is the oldest of six children and commutes from Katy, TX each day to attend classes. An outstanding student in all of her classes, Justin joined several music majors this summer in the annual European Academic Tour. She anticipates joining the ranks of HBU music "alumni" in May 2003.



Jacobson

It is with great joy that we feature Dr. Robert Linder in this year's *HBU*beat. His legacy at HBU continues in the form of an outstanding music program and a strong music faculty. Thank you Bob, for bringing me to HBU—forever changing my life, for supporting me through the ups and downs of those early years in my teaching career, for showing me where to march boldly and when to walk gingerly, for challenging me to excel in teaching and performing, and for your continual encouragement and affirmation. My colleagues and I are forever in your debt.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Furr, *Editor*

of practical politics—the art of doing what is possible in any situation. More importantly, he was able to move the School of Music to the next level by attracting a quality faculty and increasing the visibility of the school’s ensembles and performers. Bob is a genuinely nice person who values people and their ideas.” Even after his retirement from HBU, Dr. Linder has returned often to conduct HBU ensembles. Of the many performances he directed at HBU, Linder noted the particularly rewarding experiences of conducting the premieres of Dr. Ann Gebuhr’s operas, *Brian Boru* and *Bonhoeffer*.

In addition to his service to HBU, Dr. Linder has conducted ensembles locally and throughout the United States. Since 1962, he has been associated with the Houston Gilbert and Sullivan Society, initially as Assistant Conductor and since 1975, as Conductor. In 2001, the G&S 50th Anniversary Production of *Pirates of Penzance* was dedicated to Dr. Linder. “We, the cast, want him to have—and grant him—authority over us. So this unbelievably skillful fisherman carefully weighs the desire of the performers to have fun against their simultaneous resolve to turn in a superb performance ... We have often made short work of stage directors, stage managers and many cast members who forgot that our only compensation for all this work is the fun we have and that no one is in charge of this group unless the group wants it so. Bob Linder manages us like the well-intended but unruly children that we are, helping us to both have fun when we can and behave when we must.”¹ Linder was chosen Outstanding Conductor at the International G&S Festival in Buxton, England in both 1995 and 1998.

His long-term relationship with Houston’s Theater Under the Stars began in 1979 when he was asked to step in at the last minute to conduct all performances of *Fiddler on the Roof*. He has conducted over 42 productions for TUTS and continues to lead in this venue. In addition, Dr. Linder conducted the Houston Youth Symphony for nine years, and after 20 seasons with the Houston Civic Symphony, he was named Conductor Emeritus. His credits also include television specials for NBC, CBS and PBS, and he has been guest conductor for musical theaters and symphonic orchestras around the United States. He has conducted 27 operas, 47 Broadway musicals and dozens of symphonic works.

Earning two degrees from the University of Houston, Linder was named the Outstanding Alumnus of Moores School of Music in 1997. He received an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities from Houston Baptist University and was further honored with the title of “Distinguished Professor” in 1994. Other honors include recognition in “Who’s Who in Music” and his 1994 citation by Houston MUSICFEST as “Outstanding Musical Artist.” Linder’s work with HBU and G&S united with the creation of the

Robert Linder Gilbert & Sullivan Collection in the Norma Lowder Room at Houston Baptist University in 2000.

Since his retirement from HBU, he has continued his conducting career and has indulged in his lifelong passion of traveling, hunting and fishing. His trips have included visits to Cuba, Germany, Austria, France, England and most recently, a three-week tour of Norway.

An avid sportsman, Bob has a deep commitment to conservation, with two particular “Conservation Loves.” One is the National Wild Turkey Federation — he is currently President of the Houston Chapter. The other is the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. This year he was Co-Banquet Chairman for the Houston Chapter that raised near \$100,000 for elk and wildlife projects in one evening. He has enjoyed hunting and fishing around the globe, including Costa Rica, Panama, British Columbia, Newfoundland, Alaska and through out the US. Ken



Bob and wife Diana

Rogers, a former colleague and long-time friend, has joined Bob on many fishing trips. He recalled their journey to the coastal town of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, to catch a Blue Marlin. “The first day out, we were fortunate to hook a Marlin. It was on my line so it was my fish, and I began the fight to land the fish. The 275 lb. fish (official weight—125 lb., but fish stories grow with time!) jumped out of the water several times as I struggle to reel it in. I tired sooner than the fish (but didn’t want Bob to know), so I offered to let him fight with the fish for awhile. Bob said no, that it was my fish, but I insisted. He finally agreed and we shared in this grand experience of landing a Blue Marlin. It has provided us with our own ‘big fish’ story.”



LINDER continued from p. 4

What do you get when you cross a world-class conductor, educator and administrator, with a fisherman and hunter? Dr. Don Looser, Vice President of Academic Affairs at HBU and long-time friend of Bob shared this picture: "For me, the totality of the person that is Robert Linder is contained in my visual image of him—deep in the forests of the Rocky Mountains, concealed in a wild turkey blind, dressed in camouflage and black tie, a camera around his neck, eating poached salmon, wearing a turquoise squash blossom necklace and studying a score for *Penzance*."

This charismatic, highly driven teacher, administrator and conductor is a friend to many. One friend noted that when you have a conversation with Bob, he is with you one hundred percent. His undivided attention places you at ease, and you never feel he would rather be somewhere else. He also values family, keeping in touch with relatives regularly by phone. Reflecting on his friendship with Bob, Don Looser further noted, "Bob Linder resembles no one else I have ever known. He is a non-traditional Renaissance man — a complex of many, apparently unrelated, passions. He seems indefatigable, yet always finds time for others. From Crosett to Cloudcroft, his fascination with nature and wildlife is pervasive in the allocation of his time and energy. Yet, he is able to relate his profession as a music conductor and educator to his fuller persona with success that leaves onlookers slack jawed. He loves his family. He loves his students. And, he loves his friends. Countless, often unknown, manifestations of his generosity of self are an integral part of the man that is Robert Linder. His frenetic pace has never left his heart behind. Our long friendship has moved from my awareness of all he does to a love for all that he is. In my life, he is a joy and treasure."

"Retirement" has provided Bob, and his wife Diana, quality time with their three new grandchildren, as well as periods of respite at their lovely home in New Mexico. Diana, also a fine musician, enjoys making music with him, and often joins him on hunting and fishing trips. Their mutual love of travel has helped them log many miles together.

The consummate musician, conductor and teacher, Dr. Linder has had a wide range of influence. When asked about the keys to his success, he responded: "I respect the student and the professional musician. They know I care for them, and then they give me permission to teach and lead them. I show up prepared, and believe that you make your own breaks in most instances. I also am a believer in the old adage that LUCK is 'when opportunity meets

preparation.' I do my homework, and then the students will do theirs. I believe in making the weakest student and the weakest musician believe that he has something positive to offer. I love conducting and teaching and am honored at being provided that special opportunity—the people in front of me read that. Anthony Hopkins, that incredibly fine actor, often says 'yes' to artistic tasks that he himself deems close to impossible and notes: 'When you dare to attempt difficult and challenging tasks—great forces will come to your aid.' I have found this to be true. You must believe in yourself, as well."

For HBU alumni, Linder offers this advice:

- Stay up-to-date and be excited about the opportunity to work in your chosen field
- Wake up each day with the high energy required to be successful, concentrating on providing solutions to the questions that your superiors have proposed
- Seek out role models and study carefully what makes those successful people special
- Separate yourself from mediocrity and embrace your challenges, otherwise you will probably be a participant rather than a prominent member of your field

In a recent conversation, Dr. Linder took a moment to reflect on his years at HBU. "Working with students and colleagues will always be at the top of my list of truly great memories. HBU will always be a part of who I am. I cherish my 25 years there and the lifetime of friends from my experiences at the University."

Dr. Ann Gebuhr, Director of the School of Music, envisions his legacy. "Bob Linder's teaching, professionalism, and musicianship will continue to have a large impact on the arts in Houston and this country for many, many years."

¹ *Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Houston. "The Pirates of Penzance," Performance Guide, July 20-29, 2001.*

HBU bids Farewell to Ms. Billie Hagemeyer

— by Justin Jacobson



Billie Hagemeyer, Assistant Professor of Voice, Affiliate Artist, and Director of Opera Workshop, joined the HBU faculty in 1997. Beginning as an adjunct professor in 1995, Ms. Hagemeyer served the University full-time for four years. Prior to that time, she was the Associate Visiting Professor of Voice at Texas Tech

University, Head of Voice Teaching Assistants at Indiana University School of Music, Associate Professor of Voice at Illinois Wesleyan University and Associate Professor of Voice at William Jewel College.

Ms. Hagemeyer received her Bachelor of Music from Louisiana State University and her Masters of Music in Voice Performance from the University of Missouri at Kansas City-Conservatory. In addition to a large vocal studio, Ms. Hagemeyer also taught diction for singers, vocal literature and vocal pedagogy at HBU. Before joining the HBU Music School, Ms. Hagemeyer enjoyed an extensive performance career. She performed major opera roles at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein, the Saarländisches Staatstheater, Frankfurt am Main, Pfalztheater Kaiserslautern and other opera houses throughout Germany. A few of her favorite roles include Tosca in *Tosca*, Senta in *The Flying Dutchman*, Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, Desdemona in *Otello* and Jenufa in *Jenufa*.

During her tenure at Houston Baptist, Ms. Hagemeyer enriched the lives of students both as a teacher and the Opera Workshop Director. The world premiere of Dr. Ann Gebuhr's opera, *Bonhoeffer*, was a major highlight for Ms. Hagemeyer who directed the opera workshop. *Bonhoeffer* was performed in the Moores Opera House at the University of Houston. Her countless hours of work contributed to the outstanding success of this production. A master teacher, Ms. Hagemeyer expressed both joy and pride in the progress and success of her students. In her words, "They have made real progress and have shown this by producing both professional sounds and performances." Her students confirm her outstanding work as a teacher and coach. Roxan Silva, an HBU senior, reflected on her years of study with Ms. Hagemeyer:

"I can say that I was and am continually being blessed to have been able to work with one of the greats, Billie Hagemeyer. She was not your ordinary teacher by any means. Billie Hagemeyer knows what it takes to succeed in the field of voice because she has walked that path of success first hand. She was able to convey what she knows in terms that I could relate to. She has given me a priceless tool that I am able to use for the glory of our Lord, whether it is in my singing or in my teaching others as she has taught me. Thank you for being the great teacher that you are, Billie Hagemeyer."

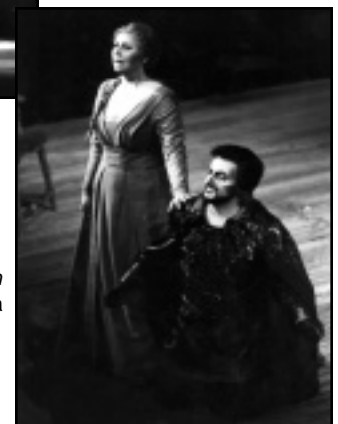
Ms. Hagemeyer's family moved to Dallas this past June where her husband is working with an architectural firm, specializing in programming, planning and commercial interior design. Their son Matthew is a sophomore in high school, and Ms. Hagemeyer has returned to the classroom herself, finishing her DM/Vocal Performance at Indiana University. She is currently in residence at IU, and will return to Dallas in January.

Dr. Rhonda Furr, a colleague and friend of Ms. Hagemeyer, spoke highly of her contributions at HBU. "Billie Hagemeyer was a valuable part of our music team. The students were always her primary focus, and she spent extra time with them whenever necessary to ensure their success in performance. Her positive spirit was a source of encouragement to those around her. During the transition time concluding her tenure at HBU, she made her final exit with the grace and poise that has always been characteristic of this fine Christian lady. She is missed by faculty and students alike, but we wish her well as she continues her education and career."

Ms. Hagemeyer eloquently said her final farewell to HBU: "I have been blessed here at HBU with wonderful colleagues and students. I have the utmost respect and love for all of you and wish you all the best in the future and in all your endeavors."



Ms. Hagemeyer with Alan Titus in *Don Giovanni* Dusseldorf Opera



The Flying Dutchman Dusseldorf Opera

with a variety of professional and semi-professional musical organizations. We would like to hear from you, if you have been out of touch!

As you read above, Mrs. Hagemeyer is finishing her doctorate at Indiana and the Hagemeyers have moved to Dallas – our warmest wishes go with them! We are currently searching for a replacement for Mrs. Hagemeyer. We are delighted with our fine group of new adjunct and affiliate artists. Their names and outstanding credentials are listed in the Faculty Update section of this newsletter. These musicians bring a wealth of experience and excellence to the School of Music, and we are delighted to welcome them!

New changes continue on our campus. Currently, Mabee Theater is in the process of a complete face-lift. The stage area has been resurfaced with a wood floor, a new entrance to the auditorium has been created that drops the ceiling in an attractive style similar to the area on the opposite end of the room, new paint and hand rails have been added, and new chairs and carpet have been ordered.

In other places in this newsletter you will read of faculty activities and see our calendar of concerts and events for the academic year. We hope to see many of you at some of those events, and we wish all of you well!

Dr. Ann Gebuhr
Director, School of Music

School of Music Launches New Web Site!

HBU's School of Music recently launched a new departmental Web site. Located at www.hbu.edu/music/, the Web site features detailed information about the School of Music's academic offerings, degree plans, faculty and audition procedures. Faculty and staff members are very excited about the potential that the new site offers for informing prospective college students of the benefits received by studying music at Houston Baptist University. Dr. Ann Gebuhr, Director of the School of Music, has high hopes for the new Web site. "[The site] is going to be invaluable to us not only for recruitment, but also for publicity about concerts, for information about procedures and contacts, and as an interface with persons in the School of Music, the University, and the community."



Kelly

The School of Music Web site is functional for both marketing purposes, as well as for aiding current students in their collegiate activities. Items such as the department's Student Handbook and Concert Calendar are located online for easy access. Other documents such as recital applications and jury forms are located on a secure server with restricted access for only current students, faculty, and staff. Published for the benefit of alumni are departmental news releases, concert listings, and special articles.

The new site was introduced in Mabee Theater at Student Forum on March 12, 2001. The presentation was given by the site designer Ryan Kelly '02. Mr. Kelly is a senior studying for a bachelor's degree in Church Music. "The Web site shows the work and planning of many individuals. It has high marketing potential and has already shown itself to be a valuable resource to the School of Music," said Mr. Kelly. Since the introduction of the Web site, many prospective students and faculty have commented on the usefulness of the Web site.

The School of Music, which before saw only basic departmental information listed on the general University's Web site, now has the opportunity to publish a wide variety of publicity on the new departmental site. "We have anticipated a site like this for a number of years. Ryan Kelly has done a superb job for us in developing this site," said Dr. Gebuhr. The Web site is updated and maintained throughout the school year. The Web site's URL is www.hbu.edu/music/.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Over the past four years a number of scholarships have been established for Music students at HBU. The generosity and the enthusiastic support of the donors of these scholarships is wonderful, and the scholarships have served to help students in a variety of ways. Those scholarships are:

Kuisk-Scheuch Vocal Performance Award – now in its fourth year, this annual award is given to a student nominated by the faculty of the Voice Department. Donated by Drs. Linda Kuisk, Ph.D and George Scheuch, Ph.D.

Manuel Chavez Violin Performance Award – now in its third year, this award is given to a student nominated by the instrumental faculty. Donated by Dr. Manuel I. Chavez, MD.

A. O. Nielsen Composition Award – given every other year, and awarded to a Composition major as the result of a competition. Funded by an anonymous donor.

Violin Performance Award – this year, a new award given to a student nominated by the instrumental faculty. Funded by an anonymous donor.

Alumni Showcase



Each year *HBU*beat will showcase a music alumnus. The alumnus selected for this honor was chosen by a committee.

— by Josh Hortman '02

Chuck Reid

“Among the best things God sends our way are the serendipitous blessings of our children. Both of our boys were given good musical gifts, but it was obvious early on that Chuck’s gifts were special. After joining choir his senior year at Hastings High School just so he could make UIL All State Choir, Chuck began to consider the thought that he was perhaps destined to become a singer. That year, though, the term “singer” had taken on new meaning for him, when his Aunt Carolyn told him candidly, “Chuck, you have to decide if you are going to be a person who can sing or if you are going to be a singer!” When he told me that he had decided to major in vocal performance, I told him that there was no better place to go than HBU, both because of the excellent vocal and choral instruction he would receive and because of the opportunities to perform in the Houston arts market. Then I told him, much like my sister had earlier, that majoring in vocal performance was not for the faint of heart, that he must completely commit himself to the art of singing, that he should attend every vocal concert in Houston, sit in on every vocal rehearsal, and listen to every recording of great singers that he could possibly fit into his schedule, that more would never be enough but that he should strive to do more — that while others complained about having to learn five songs, he should ask for ten that he should inundate himself, completely surround himself, with artful singing to the point that he would absorb the intricacies of the art itself. Well, somewhat to my surprise, he took me at my word and did just that. For example, he called me from Houston Public Library (downtown) one day to let me know that he was purchasing a bunch of discarded records of great singers and operas for 25 cents apiece. I agreed to the purchase, not realizing he was buying around 300 records!! He listened to them until the grooves were almost worn through. It was the best \$75 I ever spent!! Chuck had a great experience becoming a musician at HBU. He wasn’t the perfect music student. But I was proud on almost a daily basis to witness his work ethic as a student. God gave him a good “set of pipes.” Dr. Sarah Rideout Jones (voice teacher), Dr. David Wehr (choir), and all of his other professors challenged him well and played a big part in his training. But much of the musician that Chuck is today is due to his own resolve to work hard and be the best steward that he could be of God’s gifts to him. He made (and makes) me a proud papa!”



Charles Reid, known as Chuck to his family and those who knew him at HBU, was not only successful as an HBU student, but has proven his ability to succeed as a professional musician. After completing his undergraduate degree in vocal performance at HBU, Chuck attended graduate school at the University of Maryland. A regular performer at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, Chuck sang in Wagner’s *Parsifal* and Prokofiev’s *Gambler* during the Met’s 2000-2001 season. In 2000 Chuck also debuted at Opera Carolina in *Turandot* and at Connecticut Opera in *Don Giovanni*. *Messiah* performances include Mid-America Productions at Carnegie Hall, *Messiah* Festival in Missouri, Columbia Pro Cantare in Maryland, and the Masterwork Chorus at Lincoln Center. He has also performed Haydn’s *Creation* with the Southwest Symphony Orchestra and Mozart’s *C Minor Mass* with the Washington Bach Consort. Chuck debuted with the Opéra Français de New York in the demanding role of Alphonse in Herold’s *Zampa* during the 1999-2000 season. Other performances that season saw Chuck singing with Sarasota Opera, Opera Theatre at Wildwood, and the Maryland Handel Festival. It was also during the 1999-2000 season that Chuck debuted at the Met in *Capriccio* by Richard Strauss, and he has also sung roles in *Die Meistersinger* and *Susannah*. During the 1998 season, Chuck debuted at Glimmerglass Opera in Carlisle Floyd’s *Of Mice and Men*. In addition to a successful career as a performer, Chuck has also participated in numerous competitions; among his awards are the 1997 Richard Tucker Music Foundation Jacobson Study Grant, Grand Prize Winner at the Florida Grand Opera YPO Competition and the Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition. He was also an award-winning Finalist in the Loren L. Zachary National Vocal Competition and New Jersey State Opera International Vocal Competition.

Although the feelings of his colleagues and professors cannot compare with that of a loving father, all who knew him at HBU are proud to have made some contribution to his success, both as a student and as a performer.

- Dr. Robert A. Reid Professor of Church Music and Music Education (1980-2000)



Grace Notes



MUSIC ALUMNI UPDATE

Note: "Update" indicates students who were included in the previous issue of **HBUpbeat**. Addresses and phone numbers may be found in these editions or you can contact the **Upbeat** editor.

1967

ELIZABETH TURNER
(Price)
turnerpa@earthlink.net

1969

CAROL SUE COLE
(Bond)
P.O. Box 10536
College Station, TX 77842-0536

JIM MOONEY
P.O. Box 609
Hallettsville, TX 77964
361-798-9920
eleganta@viptx.net

Remarried Dec. '98 to Carolyn Treptow. Retired Dec., '00 after 32 years of teaching. Certified by State of Texas in Computer Literacy and Basic Business. Grandfather to new grandson, Simon Christopher.

1970

RENEE GRIFFIN
(Fransee)
a2renee@houston.rr.com

Update: Orchestra Director and pianist at Spring Baptist Church. Recently performed at the Pastor's Conference in New Orleans.

DARLENE JAMES
(Cox)
16423 Tibet
Friendswood, TX 77546
281-993-1817
divadarlene@cs.com

LEW KING
wslew@arrl.net

Update: Has returned to full-time music ministry at First Baptist Church, Byram in Jackson, MS.

JOY L. PIRSCH
19602 Timber Forest Dr.
Humble, TX 77346
281-852-5407

Has retired from teaching at Rice University.

DAVE WOMACK
10314 Sagegate Dr.
Houston TX 77089
Dave.Womack@dashiellcorp.com

After HBU graduation, served in Air Force. Works for an engineering company. Continues playing professionally and teaching.

1971

RUTH K. McMAHAN
(Kingsbury)
ruth.mcmahan@fortbend.k12.tx.us

Update: Single again. Completed teaching cert. at HBU in '97. Received Masters of Education in guidance and counseling at U. of H. in 2000. Currently is a 6th grade counselor at Hodges Bend Middle School.

1972

TODD R. BRUN
New email: tb8861@aol.com

VICKI WILSON
(Drews-Davis)
vrwilson@ebicom.net

Update: Has completed 6th year teaching applied voice and choir at Northeast Mississippi Community College. Served as clinician/conductor for the State Mississippi Community College Mass Choir. On the Mississippi Board of American Choral Directors Association.

1973

NANCY HALL
(Ramsey)
musiknkh@aol.com

Update: Received the Kindermusik Maestro Award-honoring the top 50 programs worldwide.

1974

EDWARD F. FLORES
405 1/2 W. 27, Apt. A
Houston TX 77008
713-864-0645
adonaielohim@juno.com

Currently teaches English as a Second Language at Marshall Middle School in H.I.S.D. Part-time missionary to Cuba. Hopes to establish foundations for an ESL school and a music academy sponsored by Cuban and American evangelical churches. Proud grandfather of 1 1/2 year old, blonde, blue-eyed granddaughter, Danielle.

BARBARA MULLINS
(Brown)
7203 Standard Rd.
Magnolia, TX 77355
bamullins@mindspring.com

1975

ELIZABETH RUTH BEESON

Update: Piano accompanist for middle school at First Baptist Academy, Houston Children's Chorus Preparatory Group, and rehearsal pianist for First United Methodist Church children's and youth choirs. Recently played piano, percussion, or synthesizer for 12 major musical productions in Houston, and has also played piano in 4 local string ensemble performances.

1976

DAVID C. WEIGLE
dacuwe@austin.rr.com
DWeigle@Seton.org

Update: Currently Director of Behavioral Sciences and Social Services for the Family Practice Residency Program of Austin Medical Education Programs. Also teaches physicians how to incorporate psychological principles into their practice of medicine. Director of Music and the Arts for Trinity United Methodist Church.

1980

DENNIS SOWELL
115 Walnut
Corinth, NY 12822
dsowell@usa.net

TERRI HOWARD
(Stanford)
thoward@ev1.net

GUINN SHARPE
(Harris)
New Address:
8139 Silent Cedars
281-856-7696
guinn_s@swbell.net

Update: Works as Sr. Performance Consultant, Training Development Systems. Honored with "Distinguished" Instructional Design in the STC national competition and "Excellence" Instructional Design in the STC international competition.

1981

Tsoi Ping Leung
(Joyce Lam)

Has moved to Singapore where her husband teaches in a seminary.

1984

ROBERTO GUINEA
rgtrsm@yahoo.com

Update: Son, Andy, is now 6 yrs old.

1985

DAVID MATHIS
New Address:
211 W. 20th St.
Farmington, NM 87401
505-327-4771
davidm@fisi.net

Update: Minister of Worship, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Farmington, NM.

DEBBY McELROY
(Pierce)
865-769-0552
Jeffndebby@aol.com

Update: Married 17 yrs to husband, Jeff. Children: Kristen, 10; Trevan, 5. Vice President of Forever Families, Inc. Full time mom and wife of the McElroy family.

1986

DEIDRA J. BROWN
(Young)
deidrab@kc.rr.com

Update: Young women in harmony coordinator for Kansas City Metro area. Quartet coach. Private Voice instructor. Assistant Director of Kansas City Chorus. Handbell director for Blue Valley Baptist Church. Celebrated 12 yrs of marriage with husband, Lynn. Daughter, Caitlin, 5 yrs old.

MARK LUNSFORD

Update: First officer-Pilot for MD-10 with Continental Airlines. Deacon and choir member at Woodland Parkways Baptist Church. Wife-Gina Ratliff Lunsford '87. Son, Phillip, 9. Daughter, Lauren, 6.

1988

ELAINE DE ALMEIDA
edealmeida@aoshouston.org

Update: Has completed 13 yrs of teaching music at Annunciation Orthodox School in Houston. Has begun a classical music listening project for elementary children, including the development of a circulation classical music library.

DUSTIN RADABAUGH
New email:
dtradabaugh@earthlink.net

Update: Minister of Worship and Singles at Hays Hills Baptist Church in Buda, TX.

PAMELA SMITH-RADABAUGH
New email:
pradabaugh@del-valle.k12.tx.us

1989

SANDRA BORREGO
4914 Creekview Dr.
La Porte, TX 77571
281-470-1637
sborrego@deer-park.isd.tenet.edu or
borregosa@aol.com

Employed as the Deepwater Jr. High School Choir Director (DPISD). Interim Worship Leader at FBC South Houston. UBA Acteens Task Force. Children: Laura, 18, Freshman at Baylor, and Jacob, 5.

DINAH HANCOCK
New email:
rlhanc@swbell.net

RICHARD STEEL
35 Summithill PL.
Woodlands, TX 77381
281-362-8182
riksteel@juno.com

Employed as Shop Foreman at H&H Music (1960 location). Children: son, Kasey, 5. Daughter, Kayla, 8 years old.

1990

CYNTHIA R. ALBRIGHT
(McDowell)
New email: info@albrightevents.com
Website: www.albrightevents.com

Update: Recently became a Certified Special Events Professional. Member of the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association. Currently teaches as an adjunct professor of special events at Northern Virginia Community College.

DAWN R. BLESSING-HATFIELD
4301 E. 29th St. Apt. #176
Tucson, AZ 85711
520-750-4006

Graduated from University of Arizona in 1993 with a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance. Married David Hatfield in April 2000. Currently working towards degree at Scottsdale Culinary Institute for Cordon Bleu certification.

MARY ENA KEAN

Update: Enjoying retirement. Traveling with MLA group to Spain/Portugal.

1991

JOHN DE LA FUENTE
New email: johnd@cblink.com

Update: Director of the Mississippi All-State Youth Choir (2001). Director of the Symphony Orchestra of the United Pentecostal Church International. Adjudicator for the Mississippi All-State Youth Choir. Special Guest Soloist for 1,000,000 Soul Dream Team Crusade Banquet

held in Manila, Philippines (Jan 2001). Founder/organizer/teacher of De La Fuente School of Violin and organizer of De La Fuente School of Cello. Celebrated seven years of marriage to Leah Wallace-De La Fuente. Daughter: Alexandra Gabrielle born Oct. 2000.

JACK MANN, JR.
revjack@ev1.net

Update: Currently Associate Pastor and Youth Minister at First Baptist Church, Jacinto City, Texas. Married Gina Vickrey Ogden (HBU '91) June 2001. Gina has 2 sons, Joshua, 6; Ryan, 2.

1992

MICHAEL ANDREW GAINNEY
mikegainney@hotmail.com

Update: Trumpet player in the U.S. Continental Army Band (Fort Monroe, VA.) The band's website is www.tradoc.army.mil/band

CHARLES REID
singreid@attglobal.net

Update: Performances include Metropolitan Opera, Opera Carolina, Connecticut Opera, Mid-America Productions, Messiah Festival, Washington Bach Consort, Maryland Handel Festival, Opera Francais de New York, Sarasota Opera, Opera Theatre at Wildwood.

SCOTT SNYDER
ssnyder@sugarcreekbc.org

Update: Son, Wesley Thomas, born Nov. 2000.

1993

DANA BARNES
(Dapkus)
New email: barnes316@juno.com

Update: Son, Ethan Cannon, born Jan. 2001.

JOE MACDONALD
New Email:
jkmacdonald9110@msn.com

1994

LYNN BROWN
New email: LynetteABrown@aol.com

ERIC MAXWELL RYE
New email:
echodolphin@hotmail.com

RUSSELL WOODS
New Address:
205 C Kino Springs Dr.
Nogales, AZ 85621
520-287-2551
woods@theriver.com

Update: Is teaching the 4th grade and loves it! Enjoys living in Arizona and is surrounded by mountains.

1995

KAYTHA COKER
351 N. Post Oak Ln. #815
Houston, TX 77024
713-263-7212

Company member at Main Street Youth Theatre. Working at Masquerade Theatre, Main Street Theatre, Stages, Galveston Outdoor Musicals, and The Great Caruso. First art show at Bayou City Art Festival in March 2001. Worked at Children's Theatre Festival during summer.

MELANIE KAHLEH
(Hancock)
New email: Melanie@hbu.edu

1996

KATHRYNELLIS
ellismusic@aol.com
Webpage: www.pianomusicellis.com

Update: Has had two articles published about her composing. Christian Library Journal-Fall 2000. The Christian Communicator-April 2001.

ALEX NAVARRO
mr.alex@rocketmail.com

Free lance pianist and keyboard artist in the Los Angeles area. Has performed with Christian artists Avalon, Russ Lee, Basix, and Reigning Mercy.

1997

WILBURN COUCH
wlcouch@hotmail.com

Update: Has been accepted to the Moores School of Music at University of Houston. Started the Master of Music program in Spring '01.

CHRISTY DUNNAM
12101 Cedar Gully Rd.
Baytown, TX 77520
281-383-2366
kcdunnam@aol.com

Worked as junior high choir director in the Goose Creek ISD. Currently is the Assistant Choir Director at Sterling High School in Baytown. Celebrated 10 years of marriage to Kevin in June.

CHAD C. GRANT
724 E. 12th St.
Houston, TX 77008
New phone #: 713-880-0711

Update: Program Coordinator at Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens. Taught last year at HCC and San Jacinto College. Regimental Brass (brass quintet with percussion) and She Walks in Beauty (choral work) recently accepted for publication.

LINDA JAMES
New Address:
1511 5th St # 113
Missouri City, TX 77489
281-208-4608
birdflying@yahoo.com

Update: Teaching piano and flute for Music and Sound in Missouri City. Plays oboe with the Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra.

1998

ALEXIS DELVALLE
(Reed)
20522 Arrow Field Ln.
Katy, TX 77450
281-492-9604
adelvall@kingsland.org

Currently a music staff assistant at Kingsland Baptist Church.

JAMES HALL
New Address:
4515 Fredonia Ave.
Snyder, TX 79549
240-354-3609
jhall4515@aol.com

Update: Is joining the Young Artist Program of Portland Opera Co., Portland, OR-performing the roles of Papageno, Guglielmo, and Dandini. Recently completed Belcore in L'elisir, debut reading of The Newport Rivals and Salsipuedes.

1999

SUSAN ANDERSON
SAnder9430@aol.com

Update: Will be attending University of Texas, Arlington in the fall to work on teacher certification and masters of education. Engaged to be married.

KEVIN M. KLOTZ
1102 Meadowlark Ln.
Sugar Land, TX 77478
281-491-1558
PianomanKMK@aol.com

Currently working on Masters at University of Houston. Studying choral conducting with Dr. Charles Hausmann. Employed as the Assistant Music Director at St. Laurence Catholic Church.

KARINA ROMERO
kvromero@yahoo.com

Update: Son, Joshua David born Nov. 2000.

CHRISTINA WILLAMS
4327 Tracemeadow Dr.
Houston, TX 77066
mtjazz25@hotmail.com

2000

DALMA BORONKAI
6014 Winsome #204
Houston, TX 77057
832-251-9246

Has received a full scholarship into the Rice University Graduate Program and will start voice studies fall '01. Won 1st place and a \$2000 scholarship in the Tuesday Musical Club Ruth Burr Awards Competition. Visited Romania and Europe during the summer '01. Also works as a skin care specialist at Clarins in the Galleria.

KELLY CROSBY
klcmusic@hotmail.com

Currently working as music assistant at First Baptist Church, Sugar Land.

ADRIENNE FRY
1003 Woodchuck Ln.
Houston, TX 77073
mute@rocketmail.com

Currently the music director at First Baptist Church, Spring Branch. Training to be a dental assistant. Considering Southwestern Theological Seminary to pursue a master in church music.

KELLY GRACE
New Address:
5165 Verde Valley Ln.
Dallas, TX 75240
972-774-0553
purplebass@aol.com

Currently a Systems Coordinator for LINK Integrated Systems and playing in the band, Animal Couch. Daughter, Mattalyen Keely Grace.

EVE WOODARD
8006 Wind Forest Dr.
Houston, TX 77040
713-849-5433
song@ev1.net

Currently working as Preparatory School of Music instructor at HBU, teaching guitar and bass guitar.

INSTRUMENTAL

— Dr. Richard Spitz

Reviewing the activities of 2000 - 2001, it has been another year of many student accomplishments. Many “firsts” were achieved by the jazz ensemble, symphonic band, chamber orchestra and pep band.

The symphonic band performed thirteen times this year in regular quarterly concerts, assemblies, graduation ceremonies, and concert tour. Two events are particularly noteworthy. In February the Symphonic Band combined talents with the HBU Choirs in a joint concert. This was an important first for the School of Music. The Stafford Civic Auditorium was rented for the Friday evening event.

Spring 2001 marked the first ever Symphonic Band concert tour consisting of six performances over a four-day period. The tour included performances in Houston, Sugar Land, Fort Bend, San Antonio and San Marcos. The tour was a tremendous success from a musical perspective as well as the outstanding fellowship had by all. Scientific inquiry was included in the musical tour. The hypothesis tested was: Which material is stronger - the back quarter panel (and tire) of a tour bus or a reinforced steel gate. Our results are soon to be published in book form, “Things to Do in Downtown San Marcos While Awaiting Bus Repair.”



The Jazz Ensemble featured the talents of the Paul English Trio in the fall guest artist concert, “In Flight.” The vocal talents of new faculty member Linda Keith-McKnight were enlisted for the spring pops convocation. She showed a real flair for popular/jazz styles in addition to her tremendous operatic training. Selections she performed were *Stormy Weather* and *Blue Skies*.

The HBU Chamber Orchestra enjoyed a banner year. The Winter concert in February featured new faculty tenor Robin Roewe in a performance of Copland’s *Suite of Old American Songs* (set II). Junior music major Lucina Reyes won the first annual orchestral concerto competition. She performed the first movement of the Bruch Violin Concerto on the program. The third selection on the concert was Symphony No.39 by Mozart (complete). As in past years, HBU string majors performed two concerts with the Houston Civic Symphony.

The Faculty Brass Quintet performed a recital on campus in April. The Ensemble also represented the university proudly performing at the Wortham Center for the “Keep Houston Beautiful” luncheon sponsored by Mayor Lee Brown.

The pep band was definitely a dedicated bunch performing at 25 games, pep rallies, and other functions. The year began with the annual performance at the “Welcome Days” festivities in Alvin. As evidence of their dedication, the group was invited to perform at nationals (both in Tennessee and Oklahoma). Unfortunately, classroom obligations made it too difficult for them to get away twice in one quarter (spring tour).

ALUMNI BAND!!!

Make plans to join us Saturday, February 2 for Homecoming 2002. It promises to be another exciting evening in the Husky tradition. Game time for the men is 7:30 p.m.. We start playing at 7:00 p.m. Bring your instruments and be a part of the good times.



Instructor Dick Wilkie with Hendel Almetus '02

RECRUITING CONCERTS/CLINICS

If you would like to have an HBU ensemble performance at your school, clinic, or recruitment presentation please be in touch. The Symphonic Band, Jazz, Ensemble, and Chamber Orchestra are ready to “hit the road.” Clinics by individual applied instructors can also be arranged. The wind, percussion and string faculty are eager to spread the word about what is happening at HBU. Please, stay in touch!

CHORAL

— Dr. John Yarrington

This summer, HBU hosted a music camp for singers wishing to learn music for the Texas All State choir auditions. Fifty singers attended and learned their music under the direction of Dr. John Yarrington, Mrs. Debbie Tidwell (Camp Manager), John Nance, Molly Ness, Janwin Overstreet-Goode and HBU graduate, Russ Clark. Chip



Aaron Holmes, HBU sophomore, sings with summer camp high school students.

Colvin, Steven Jones and John Marcum served as accompanists. A concert was given at the end of the week in Hinton Center and well attended by over 100 parents and friends. HBU plans another camp this coming summer.

American composer, Morten Lauridsen will be in residence during the Winter Quarter, teaching classes and working with the HBU choirs to present a concert of his music on February 8, 2001 to include *Lux Aeterna*, with orchestra. Last year, Alice Parker was our campus guest, and the students had the pleasure of hearing her speak and singing her music.

The University Singers, the Schola Cantorum and a few music alumni are making a trip to New York on Thanksgiving weekend to join several other choirs in singing the Christmas portion of *Messiah* under the direction of Mr. John Rutter. The Carnegie Hall Concert will be on Sunday afternoon, November 25, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. If you have friends or relatives in the New York area, please encourage them to come and support our HBU contingent. Tickets are available by contacting Dr. John Yarrington.

MUSIC EDUCATION

— Dr. Richard Fiese

There are currently several students completing their student teaching experience in the public schools throughout the area. The students complete both an elementary and a secondary student teaching placement that culminates in their recommendation for certification by the State. The students are Sandra Brewer, Denise Butler, Donna Rae Fender, Heath Wade Hampton, Amanda Somers, and Lydia Tate.

Students are also developing their pre-professional preparation by initiating their membership in the Texas Music Educators Association. This student branch of the parent organization is part of the most vital and innovative music education association in the world and will permit them to attend the world's largest music education conference held annually in San Antonio during the month of February.

VOCAL

— Ms. Lynda McKnight

The Department of Vocal Studies has had a very successful year with the new faculty. First, student accomplishments: We took 12 students to the annual Regional NATS conference and student competition, and had six semifinalists and one winner, Breanna Richardson, who took 3rd Place in Freshman Women. Matthew Parker received a scholarship from the Gilbert and Sullivan Society, and Josh Wilson received one from the West Houston Chamber of Commerce. We had a big recital

season, with eight recitals being offered in the Winter and Spring Quarters. The HBU Opera Theatre performed two programs, one of scenes from Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*, the other a full production of Barab's *Little Red Riding Hood*, which toured area schools.

The coming year promises to be exciting. In March, the HBU Opera Theatre will mount a full-scale production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, with period sets and costumes, orchestra, the whole nine yards!

Faculty Update

RICHARD FIESE, *Professor*

Dr. Fiese has had a positive year for publication including three books, "Preparing Graduate Papers in Music" published by Halcyon Press and co-authored with J. David Boyle and Nancy Zvac, "A Systematic Approach to Error Detection for Conductors" published by University of Miami, co-authored with Nicholas DeCarbo, and a featured article, "Focus on Assessment," published by MENC. An article entitled "In support of Intolerance" has been solicited for publication by TMEA and will be published in a forthcoming "Southwestern Musician." Dr. Fiese also helped arrange the music for the Oak Ridge High School band competitive marching show based on the music "The Dream of Oengus" by Rolf Rudin.

RHONDA FURR, *Associate Professor*

Dr. Furr was the featured recitalist for the organ dedication at Williams Trace Baptist Church. Performed works included compositions by Bach, Couperin, Guilman, and hymn arrangements. She was the featured piano soloist for the program "Music of the Heart" for United Methodist Women at First Methodist Church-Westchase. Her work as organist at Grace Presbyterian Church has included performances of compositions by Handel, Beethoven, Haydn, Purcell, Bach, Mendelssohn and others.



ANN GEBUHR, *Professor*

Dr. Gebuhr has had numerous compositions performed during the 2000-2001 year, including: Performance of *In Memoriam Dietrich Bonhoeffer* by the Old Dominion University Chamber Orchestra, *Luftkasteller* by the Indianapolis Philharmonic Orchestra, *Primum Oratio Sacra* for choir and organ in Houston, Meissen, Arnstadt, Eisenach and Leipzig, Germany by the Bach Choir of Houston and a presentation on *Bonhoeffer* to Lutheran Student Association, Rice University. A performance of *In Memoriam Dietrich Bonhoeffer* will be included on a concert in memory of the terrorist attack victims on 3 November by the DePauw University Orchestra. Numerous performances and premiers of her new works are scheduled for the 2001-2002 season. Premiers for her new compositions include *O'Keeffe's Museum*, a cycle of songs on poetry of Ragan Courtney about Georgia O'Keeffe and the first movement of her new four-movement symphony, *Voyage d'Anima (Voyage of the Soul)*, commissioned by the Indianapolis Philharmonic, to be performed by the Bucharest Philharmonic in June, 2002. The hour-long symphony includes I--D'Initii ad Amor Perfectus (from Beginnings to Perfect Love), II--Inventum de Sanctus Spiritus (Discoveries of the Holy Spirit), III--Agnus Dei, Amor sine Exceptione (Lamb of God, Unconditional Love), and IV--Laetitiae (Exultations). The projected premiere will be during the 2003-2004 season.



JOHN HENDRICKSON, *Assistant Professor*

John Hendrickson and Rodica Weber, Affiliate Artist, conducted their fifth Summer Chamber Institute at HBU, June 4-9, with a record high participation. The duo also collaborated with other HBU Affiliate Artists in a world premiere of Dr. Ann Witherspoon's Quintet at the National Music Teachers Association Convention held in Houston last June. Weber and Hendrickson have an exciting year ahead with an upcoming performance at Weill Recital Hall in New York City (Carnegie Recital Hall). They will perform February 5 at HBU before performing in New York March 30. In addition, Mr. Hendrickson will be performing Rachmaninoff's Third Concerto with the Brazosport Symphony Orchestra on March 2, and a solo recital at the end of the Spring quarter.



DAN KRAMLICH, *Associate Professor*

Mr. Kramlich's composition, *Fanfare and Variants for Brass Quintet* premiered at the Houston Composers Alliance concert at the Duncan Recital Hall, Rice University. The HCA focuses on music by living American-Houston composers. He was also asked to serve as clinician for the Houston Symphony Chorus Summer Retreat in Galveston, TX in August.



LYNDA MCKNIGHT, *Assistant Professor*

Ms. McKnight traveled to Europe in November 2000, with a group called *Sounds of Healing*, consisting of two choirs from LA, one from Toronto and one from Tel Aviv. The ensemble performed on the *Musica Judaica Festival* in Prague, performing works by Terezin concentration camp internees. The program also included Bernstein's "Kaddish" Symphony #3 in LA and in Nuremberg, with the Nuremberg Symphony. Ms. McKnight performed selected Gideon Klein songs on the Prague concert and sang the soprano solo in the Bernstein. The tour is the subject of a documentary now in production and has led to future engagements with Nuremberg and in Prague, singing Britten's War Requiem in 2003. Ms. McKnight presented a faculty recital this year, including a preview concert at University Place. In addition, she was an adjudicator for the TMEA Region Choir Auditions and the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest, and she served as a clinician for several area choral groups.



ROBIN ROEWE, Assistant Professor

Mr. Roewe performed the title role in Offenbach's *Orphée aux enfers* and covered the role of Pollione in Bellini's *Norma* with the renowned Des Moines Metro Opera. He also performed in an opera gala with the Southern Illinois Symphony, which was broadcast on Illinois Public Radio and won an award for "Volunteer Symphony Performance of the Year."



In addition, Mr. Roewe signed contracts for upcoming performances with Opera in the Heights in Houston for the role of Ricardo in Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera* and the title role in *Les contes d'Hoffman*. Upcoming performances also include Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, Verdi's Requiem, and Haydn's *Creation*. Additionally, Mr. Roewe presented a faculty recital at HBU, was an adjudicator for the Texas All-State Choir Auditions, and is the Artist in Residence at Tallowood Baptist Church.

RICHARD SPITZ, Associate Professor

Dr. Spitz served as an adjudicator for the Texas University Interscholastic League, Texas Music Educators Association, and Educational Programs Network festivals. He also judged jazz festivals for Fort Bend Unified at Dulles High School and HISD at Westside High School. He was guest conductor for the Gulf Coast Concert Band, the Houston Youth Symphony Brass Ensemble, the Houston Civic Symphony, and Texas Baptist All State Jazz Ensemble. Trombone performances included work with the Alpine Express (Houston, TX, New Braunfels, TX, New Mexico, and Georgia), The Best Little Klezmer Band in Texas (Ponca City, Oklahoma), Houston Choral Society, Houston Ebony Opera (Pucinni's *La Boheme* and annual African American Music Gala), and the Ronnie Renfro Big Band. He also performed with the Second Baptist Church (Houston) Orchestra in their *Symphony of Carols* (Christmas) and *Home of the Brave* (Fourth of July) presentations. The Faculty Brass Quintet performed at the Wortham Center for Mayor Lee Brown's "Keep Houston Beautiful" luncheon. They also performed a recital on campus in April.



JOHN YARRINGTON, Professor

Dr. John Yarrington was clinician for the Lakeview Methodist Music and Arts Week in Palestine, Texas, the Fellowship of United Methodist Summer Music Camp at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, and the Naramata Summer School of Music/Arts in Naramata, British Columbia. In addition, Dr. Yarrington led choral workshops for the Oklahoma and Kansas Choral Directors' Associations. Under his direction, HBU hosted a High School Vocal Camp in July to prepare students for All-State music auditions. The camp culminated in a Friday evening concert in Hinton Center, conducted by Dr. Yarrington.



New Adjuncts and Affiliate Artists

GEORGE CHASE, Trumpet

BM/ Trumpet Performance / Curtis Institute of Music

MM/ Trumpet Performance / Rice University

A native of upstate New York, George Chase attended the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. While living in Philadelphia, he performed with the Philadelphia Opera, the Harrisburg Symphony, and the Philadelphia Brassworks. During the summers, he performed with the Berkshire Opera. Following his graduation, Mr. Chase moved to Houston to attend Rice University, studying with James Witt of the Houston Symphony. After his graduation from Rice, he joined the Symphony Orchestra of the State of Mexico in Toluca, Mexico as associate principal trumpet. Upon his return to the U.S., he began performing with area groups such as the Houston Symphony, Theater Under the Stars, the Houston Ballet, the Houston Baptist University Faculty Brass Quintet, and founded the Houston Brass Consortium.

MARK MOORE, Guitar

BM/ Music Performance / Southwest Texas State University

MM/ Music Performance / University of Texas

Mark Moore, classical guitarist, studied under the direct guidance of Adam Holzman. His master classes include work with Pepe Romero, Eliot Fisk, the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, and the Castellani-Andriaccio Duo (Rome). An active chamber musician, Mark has recently appeared in concert with the Houston Bronze Ensemble, Nova Chamber Singers, Mosaic and the U.S./Mexico Guitar Orchestra. One of his performances with Mosaic was recorded and aired on KUHF's program "Houston in Concert." In the Spring of 2000, Mark teamed up with Dr. Raphael Sanders at Stephen F. Austin State University to give the world premiere of "Entre dos Mundos - a suite for clarinet and guitar" by the noted New York composer James Cohn. In addition to teaching at Houston Baptist University, Mark teaches in the highly successful guitar program at Bellaire High School. He taught at San Jacinto College for six years and has also taught at College of the Mainland and St. Mark Lutheran Church's Conservatory of Music. A founding member of Houston's classical guitar society - Guitar Houston - he serves on the Board of Directors and conducts the Guitar Houston Guitar Orchestra.

MELISSA EVELYN GIVENS, *Soprano*

BM/Vocal Performance / Shepherd School of Music, Rice University

MM/Vocal performance / Davison College

Soprano Melissa Evelyn Givens has won and placed in several competitions, including the 1991 Texoma Region NATS Singer of the Year. She has taught voice at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University and San Jacinto Community College. Ms. Givens was a critically acclaimed soloist in the Houston Ebony Opera Guild's "Opera Gems 2001" concert, for which one reviewer lauded her "seamless legato and tasteful phrasing." Charles Ward of the Houston Chronicle called her 2000 performance of Handel's *Israel in Egypt* for the Houston Masterworks chorus "consistently rewarding." An active recitalist and frequent guest soloist, she is a soprano soloist at Houston's First Presbyterian Church and a member of the Houston Grand Opera Chorus.

KIMBERLY LYNN FUSELIER, *Soprano*

BM/Vocal Performance / Baylor University

MM/Vocal Performance / Indiana University

Ms. Fuselier, a Louisiana native, studied with Dr. Karen Peeler and Ms. Lynda Keith-McKnight. Her operatic performances include roles sung with Indianapolis Opera, Utah Festival Opera Company, The Waldron Arts Center, College Light Opera Company and Fort Worth opera. A few of her highlighted roles consist of Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Poppea in *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*, Musetta in *La Boheme*, Rosina in

The Barber of Seville and Adele in *Die Fledermaus*.

Ms. Fuselier has also appeared as guest soloist with the contemporary vocal ensemble, the Lake Charles Chorale, Northwestern University Chamber singers and others. Known for her fluency in performing new music, Kimberly has had the pleasure to premiere new works by composers such as John Eaton, William Bolcolm, Eric Whitacre and Don Freund. She is a previous winner of the NATS competition, the Mu Phi Epsilon Award and finalist in the Dallas Opera Guild and MacAllistar Awards Competitions.

STEVEN LAVEN, *Cello*

BM / Cello Performance / Eastman School of Music

MM / Cello Performance / Manhattan School of Music

Steven Laven, cello, is currently assistant principal cellist in the Houston Ballet Orchestra and a member of the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra. Previous to coming to Houston, he served as principal cellist with the Omaha Symphony for eight seasons, frequently appearing as soloist. In the summer, Mr. Laven performs in Jackson, Wyoming at the Grand Teton Music Festival with the orchestra, made up of players from major orchestras from around the world. In addition to positions as an adjunct faculty member at several colleges, Mr. Laven has also served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Cello at East Carolina University for one year. After meeting three other Eastman alumni in Houston, he formed the Omega String Quartet, which performs exclusively for school children in southeast Texas as artists on the roster of Young Audiences of Houston and Young Audiences of Southeast Texas (Beaumont). Mr. Laven's love for chamber music has also led to affiliations with the American Festival for the Arts as well as with the acclaimed Wind River 4 string quartet.



New Address
 Yes
 No

Name: _____
Including maiden name or other name used at HBU

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone(s): _____ Email: _____

Year graduated or last year attended: _____



Update us on what is going on in your life. Please keep us up-to-date on: employment, promotions, marriage, children, awards.

Please return this form to: HBUpbeat, c/o Dr. Rhonda Furr, School of Music, 7502 Fondren Road, Houston TX 77074-3298 or e-mail <rfurr@hbu.edu>